



The State Bar of California

EXCERPTED FROM THE
FINAL REPORT AND RECOMMENDATIONS
CALIFORNIA PARAPROFESSIONAL PROGRAM WORKING GROUP
SEPTEMBER 21, 2021

Practice Areas and Tasks

Practice Area	Recommendations	Authorized Tasks
Criminal	Exclude, except for Collateral Criminal	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Expungement and reclassification of convictions• Infractions
Consumer Debt/General Civil	Include	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Consumer debt and creditor harassment:<ul style="list-style-type: none">○ Prelitigation cease-and-desist and prove-up letters○ Prelitigation negotiation of settlements, including○ All superior court litigation excluded• Enforcement of judgement<ul style="list-style-type: none">○ Enforcement of small claims court judgements○ Limited jurisdiction post-judgement enforcement• Name and gender change
Estate and Trusts	Exclude	None
Employment/Income Maintenance	Include	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Wage and hour cases<ul style="list-style-type: none">○ Division of Labor Standards Enforcement proceedings○ Wage and hour judgement enforcement – limited jurisdiction only○ All superior court litigation excluded• Unemployment insurance proceedings (Employment Development Department)• All public benefit proceedings
Family, Children, and Custody	Include	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Family<ul style="list-style-type: none">○ All matters except for the following:<ul style="list-style-type: none">▪ Nullity matters:<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Petitions based on incest, unsound mind, fraud, force, and/or physical incapacity• Putative spouse establishment

		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Division on quasi-martial property ▪ Petition to establish parental relationship involving FC § 7612(b) or (c) ▪ Petition to establish parental relationship involving FC § 7612(b) or (c) ▪ Child custody and visitation involving Hague Convetion or UCCJEA ▪ Surrogate parentage ▪ Qualified Domestic Relations Order (QDRO) ▪ Spousal or domestic partner support in long-term marriages, as defined by FC § 4336, unless included in a marital settlement agreement that does not terminate or set nonmodifiable spousal support ▪ Discovery: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Oral Depositions • Expert discovery • Related motions ▪ Premarital/postmarital agreements ▪ Marvin actions (palimony) ▪ Contempt actions ○ Exclusion from representation in hearings on emergency custody or visitation requests when a judge has granted temporary emergency orders <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ At such hearings, paraprofessionals are authorized to sit at counsel table to support an advise their client, and may answer direct procedural questions from the judge • Uncontested adoption, with the following exceptions: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Adoptions arising from dependency petitions ○ Adoptions where the child has been identified as protected by the Indian Child Welfare Act • Uncontested conservatorships/guardianships, with the following exceptions:
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Health	Exclude	None
Housing	Include	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Residential landlord-tenant, with the following exceptions <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Landlords who own more than two units ○ Bench or jury trials <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ During unlawful detainer trials, paraprofessionals may assist their clients by sitting at counsel table to provide advice and guidance, and may respond to direct questions from the judge ○ Representation in superior court matters, in or out of court, other than small claims or unlawful detainer cases • Lien clearing <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Clearing liens from title, outside of litigation
Veterans	Exclude	None