	How to File a Defendant's Claim
Step 1	Complete the following forms in blue or black ink:
	SC-120 Defendant's Claim and Order to Go to Small Claims Court
	SC-120A Other Plaintiffs or Defendants (<i>if necessary</i>)
	SC-103 Fictitious Business Name (<i>if you do business under a name that is not your own</i>)
Step 2	Copies: Make enough copies for each plaintiff and one for you, in addition to the original.
Step 3	File: Turn in the original and copies of the forms to: 191 North First Street, San Jose, CA 95113 The Clerk's Office opens at 8:30am Monday-Friday, closing times are subject to change, visit www.scscourt.org or call 408-882-2100 for current office hours.
is \$30 to \$100.	☐ If you are not asking for a fee waiver, you will pay the filing fee and get copies back with a file-stamp and a case number.
	□ If you are asking for a fee waiver, your file-stamped copies may be returned immediately, OR you may be asked to return in up to 24 hours, OR your file stamped forms may be mailed to you. Please check with the clerk who takes your forms.
Step 4	Service: After the filed copies are returned to you:
-	Keep for your records—1 filed copy
	 Serve: You have three options for serving the plaintiff a filed copy of your forms: Personal Service: This means that someone over 18, NOT YOU or anyone named in the case, must personally hand a filed copy of your forms to the plaintiff. The plaintiff does not need to sign anything saying they got your paperwork. Substitute Service: Substitute service can be done by someone over 18, NOT YOU or anyone named in the case at one of two locations: Home: The server can personally hand the forms to someone over 18 who lives at the plaintiff's address and is told what the papers are about <u>and</u> then the server must mail a copy of the forms to the plaintiff at that same address. Work: The server can personally hand the forms to someone over 18 who appears to be in charge at the plaintiff s business address <u>and</u> then the server must mail a copy of the forms to the plaintiff at that same address. Certified Mail Service: For a fee, the court clerk will serve your claim by certified mail. <u>This type of service can only be done through the court.</u> The certified mail service only works if the plaintiff signs the certification and sends it back. Many plaintiffs will not sign the certification so this type of service often does not work. Time for Service: If you were served a copy of the Plaintiff's Claim 10 days or less before the hearing date. If you were served a copy of SC-120 on the plaintiff at least 1 days before the hearing date. Certified Mail: Add 5 days to the service deadlines Substituted Service: Add 10 days from the date of mailing to the service deadlines
Step 5	After service: If your forms are served either by personal or substitute service, your server will fill out form SC-104 <i>Proof of Service</i> . You are responsible for filing the original <i>Proof of</i>
	Service form with the court clerk at least 5 calendar days before the court hearing.
Step 6	Go to your court date.

Turn over for important information

WHO DO I SUE AND SERVE?

In a Defendant's Claim, you may only sue the plaintiffs listed on the Plaintiff's Claim. If you wish to sue additional people, you will need to file a Plaintiff's Claim instead. In this case, you should let the Clerk's Office know there is a related case already on calendar. The court may want to schedule both cases together.

WHERE SHOULD I SUE?

You will need to sue in the same location as the Plaintiff's Claim. In Santa Clara County, small claims cases are filed at:

San Jose Courthouse

191 N. First St. San Jose, CA 95113 (408-882-2100)(Option 2 then Option 7 from menu)

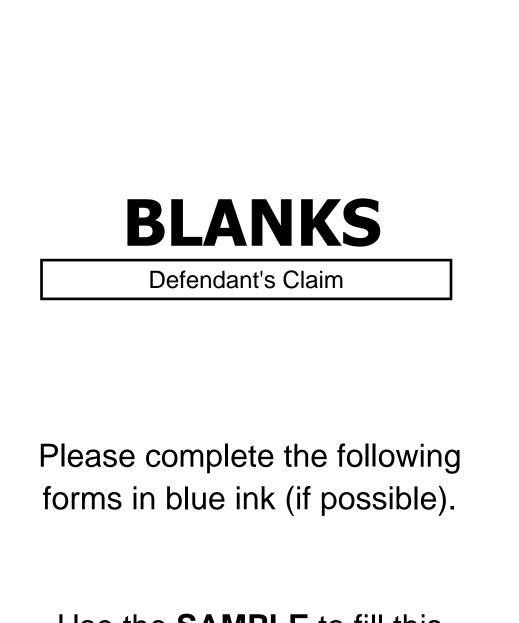
WHAT SHOULD I BRING TO MY COURT DATE?

You should bring at least two copies of the documents which help to prove your case; one copy for the defendant and one copy for the Judge. If you have any witnesses, they should also attend the court hearing because it is unlikely that the Judge will accept a letter from them as evidence.

WHAT SHOULD I EXPECT ON MY COURT DATE?

After the deputy does roll-call and the Judge explains the process, you will be sent outside to talk to the other party and try to settle. You will also have to exchange any evidence you wish to present to the Judge. If you are not able to settle, you will have an informal hearing in front of the Judge. The Judge may give you the decision while you are in court or the Judge may decide after the hearing and mail the decision to both parties. If you still have questions, talk to an attorney for legal advice. You must know the Court's local rules. They are available on the court's website at www.scscourt.org.

www.scscourt.org Santa Clara County Self-Help website www.courts.ca.gov State of California Self-Help website



Use the **SAMPLE** to fill this packet out. It will explain what you need to fill out.

SC-120 Defendant's Claim and ORDER to Go to Small Claims Court

Notice to the person being sued:

- You are being sued by the person you are suing.
- You must go to court on the trial date listed below. If you do not go to court, you may lose the case.
- If you lose, the court can order that your wages, money, or property be taken to pay this claim.
- Bring witnesses, receipts, and any evidence you need to prove your case.
- Read this form and all pages attached, to understand the claim against you and to protect your rights.

Aviso al demandado:

- · La persona que ha demandado lo está demandando a usted.
- Tiene que presentarse a la corte en la fecha de su juicio indicada a continuación. Si no se presenta, puede perder el caso.
- Si pierde el caso la corte puede ordenar que le quiten de su sueldo, dinero u otros bienes para pagar este reclamo.
- Lleve testigos, recibos y cualquier otra prueba que necesite para probar su caso.
- Lea este formulario y todas las páginas adjuntas, para entender la demanda en su contra y para proteger sus derechos.

Order to Go to Court

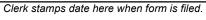
The people in (1) and (2) must go to court : (Clerk fills out section below.)

Trial Date	→ Date	Time	•	Name and address of court if different from above
	2			
Data	3		Clarita has	
Date:			Clerk, by	, Deputy

Instructions for the person suing:

- *Before* you fill out this form, read Form SC-100-INFO, *Information for the Plaintiff*, to know your rights. Get SC-100-INFO at any courthouse or county law library, or go to: *www.courtinfo.ca.gov/forms*
- Fill out pages 2 and 3 of this form. Then make copies of **all** pages of this form. (Make 1 copy for each party named in this case and an extra copy for yourself.) Take or mail the original and these copies to the court clerk's office and pay the filing fee. The clerk will write the date of your trial in the box above.
- You must have someone at least 18—not you or anyone else listed in this case—give each Plaintiff a court-stamped copy of all 3 pages of this form and any pages this form tells you to attach. There are special rules for "serving," or delivering, this form to public entities, associations, and some businesses. See Forms SC-104, SC-104B, and SC-104C.
- Go to court on your trial date listed above. Bring witnesses, receipts, and any evidence you need to prove your case.

ceb.com



Fill in court name and street address:

Superior Court of California, County of Santa Clara 191 N. First Street San Jose, CA 95113 Civil Division

Fill in case number and case name:

Case Number:

Case Name:

Case Number:

Defendant (list names):

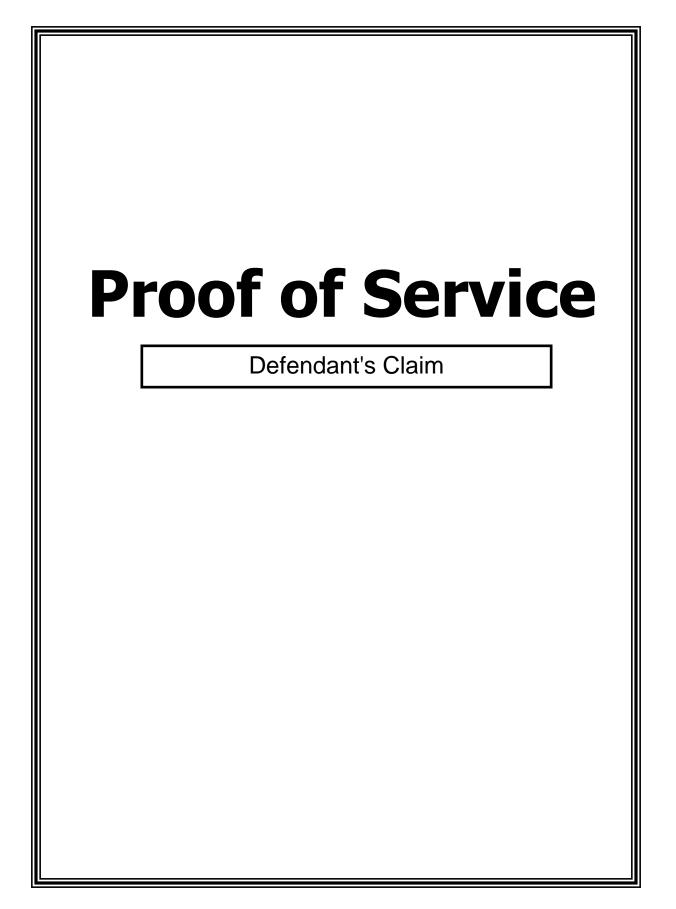
Name: Phone				Phone:	
Street add	ress:				
Mailing ad	Street		City	State	Zip
		Street	City	State	Zip
		, list next Plaintiff h			
				Phone:	
Street add	ress:Street		City	Stata	Zin
Mailing			City	State	Zip
Mannig ac	iuress (<i>ij uijjereni)</i> .	Street	City	State	Zip
Check	here if more than 2 l	Plaintiffs and attach Fori	n SC-120A.		
	•	is on active military duty		her name here:	
_	0 0 00				
The Defe	endant (the perso	on, business, or pu	blic entity suir	ng now) is:	
Name:				Phone:	
Street add	ress:				
	Street		City	State	Zip
Mailing ad	ldress (if different): _				
		Street	City	State	Zip
If more tl	han one Defendan	t, list next Defendant	here:		
		, 		Phone:	
	ress:				
Street add	Street		City	State	Zip
Mailing ad	ldress (if different):				
_		Street	City	State	Zip
	t here if more than 2 l	Defendants and attach Fo	orm SC-120A.		
Check		lant listed above is doing	business under a	fictitious name. If	so, attach Form So
	here if either Defena				
Check		-			
Check		e Plaintiff owes \$		(Explain below)	
Check	endant claims the	-		(Explain below)	:
Check	endant claims the loes the Plaintiff owe	e Plaintiff owes \$		(Explain below)	:
Check The Defe a. Why c b. When	endant claims the loes the Plaintiff owe did this happen? (Da	e Plaintiff owes \$ the Defendant money? .			
Check The Defe a. Why c b. When	endant claims the loes the Plaintiff owe did this happen? (Da	e Plaintiff owes \$			
Check The Defe a. Why c b. When If no s	endant claims the loes the Plaintiff owe did this happen? (Da specific date, give the	e Plaintiff owes \$ the Defendant money? .	d:	Through.	

Defe	endant (list names):	Case Number:
4	You may ask the Plaintiff (in person, in writing, or by phone Have you done this?	e) to pay you before you sue.
5	Is your claim about an attorney-client fee dispute? Yes <i>If yes, and if you have had arbitration, fill out Form SC-101, attach it to thi</i>	
6	Are you suing a public entity?YesNoIf yes, you must file a written claim with the public entity first.A claimIf the public entity denies your claim or does not answer within the time allow	
7	Have you filed more than 12 other small claims within the I Yes No If yes, the filing fee for this case will be higher.	ast 12 months in California?
8	I understand that by filing a claim in small claims court, I have n	o right to appeal this claim.
9	If I do not have enough money to pay for filing fees or service, I can ask the	court to waive those fees.
10	I have not filed, and understand that I cannot file, more than two small clair California during this calendar year.	ns cases for more than \$2,500 in
	I declare, under penalty of perjury under California State law, that the infor this form is true and correct.	mation above and on any attachments to
	Date: <i>Defendant types or prints name here</i>	Defendant signs here
	Date:Second Defendant types or prints name here	Second Defendant signs here
	Requests for Accommodations Assistive listening systems, computer-assisted, real-time cap services are available if you ask at least five days before the www.courtinfo.ca.gov/forms for Request for Accommodation Response (form MC-410). (Civil Code, § 54.8.) Need help? Your county's St	trial. Contact the clerk's office or go to

Santa Clara County Small Claims Advisor Go to <u>www.scscourt.org</u>, click "Small Claims Help"

Or go to "County-Specific Court Information" at: www.courtinfo.ca.gov/selfhelp/smallclaims

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SC-104 Proof of Service

Use this form to serve a **person**, a **business**, or a **public entity**. To learn more about proof of service, read *What Is "Proof of Service"?*, Form SC-104B. To learn more about how to serve a business or entity, read *How to Serve a Business or Public Entity*, Form SC-104C.

To serve a **business**, you must serve **one** of the following people:

- Owner (for a sole proprietorship)
- Partner (for a partnership) or general partner (for a limited partnership)
- Any officer or general manager (corporation or association)
- Any person authorized for service by the business (corporation, association, general partnership, limited partnership)
- Any person authorized for service with the Secretary of State (corporation, association, limited liability company [LLC], limited liability partnership [LLP], limited partnership)

To serve a **public entity**, you must first file a claim with that entity, then serve **one** of the following people:

• Clerk (of a city or county)

1

- Chief officer or director (of a public agency)
- Any person authorized for service by the entity

) a. If you are serving a **person**, write the person's name below:

b. If you are serving a **business** or **entity**, write the name of the business or entity, the person authorized for service, and that person's job title:

Clerk st	amps	date	here	when	form	is filed.	

Fill in court name and street address:

Superior Court of California, County of Santa Clara 191 N. First Street San Jose, CA 95113 Civil Division

Fill in case number, case name, hearing date, day, time, and department below:

Case Number:				
Case Name:				
Hearing Date:				
Time:	Dept.:			

Person Authorized for Service

Business or Agency Name

Instructions to Server: You must be at least 18 years old and **not be named in this case.** Follow these steps:

Job Title

- Give a copy of all the documents checked in (3) to the person in (1), *or*
- Give a copy of all the documents checked in 3 to one of the following people:
 - a. A competent adult (at least 18) living with, and at the home of the person in (1), or
 - b. An adult (at least 18) who seems to be in charge at the usual workplace of the person in (1), or
 - c. An adult (at least 18) who seems to be in charge where the person in ① usually receives mail (but not a U.S. Post Office box), if there is no known physical address for the person in ①.

and mail a copy of the documents left with one of the adults in a, b, or c above to the person in (1).

THEN

- Complete and sign this form, and
- Give or mail your completed form to the person who asked you to serve these court papers, *in time for the form to be filed with the court at least 5 days before the hearing.*

) I served the person in (1) a copy of the documents checked below:

- a. 🔲 SC-100, Plaintiff's Claim and ORDER to Go to Small Claims Court
- b. 💢 SC-120, Defendant's Claim and ORDER to Go to Small Claims Court
- c. Order for examination (This form must be personally served. Check the form that was served): Note: The court can issue a civil arrest warrant if the served party does not come to court only if the order for examination was personally served by a registered process server, sheriff, marshal, or someone appointed by the court.
 - (1) SC-134, Application and Order to Produce Statement of Assets and to Appear for Examination
 - (2) AT-138/EJ-125, Application and Order for Appearance and Examination
- d. Other (specify):

	On (date):	lly gave copies of the documents ch At (time):	a .m.	p .m.
		<u>C</u> ()		
h	•	State: nally gave copies of the documents	-	•
υ. ι		ast 18) at the home of, and living w	0	- / /
		be in charge where the person in (1)	-	0
		be in charge where the person in (1)		
		S. Post Office box), if there is no ki	•	· •
	•	e court papers to (name of person in		1
	÷	At <i>(time)</i> :	0	m. 🔲 p.m.
				¥
		State:		Zip:
	Name or description of the person	n I gave the papers to:		
:	U.S. Postal Service, or	mail drop where I know the mail is		
ノ 		Pho		
Nar				
		State:		Zin:
•	for service: \$		*	
	ou are a registered process serve			
	0 1	Registration	number:	
I de case	clare under penalty of perjury un e and that the information above i	der California state law that I am at is true and correct.	least 18 years o	old and not named in this
Dat	e:			
		>		7
Тур	e or print server's name	Server signs he	ere after serving	7
ised January	v 1. 2009	Proof of Service		SC-104, Page 2

Case Number:

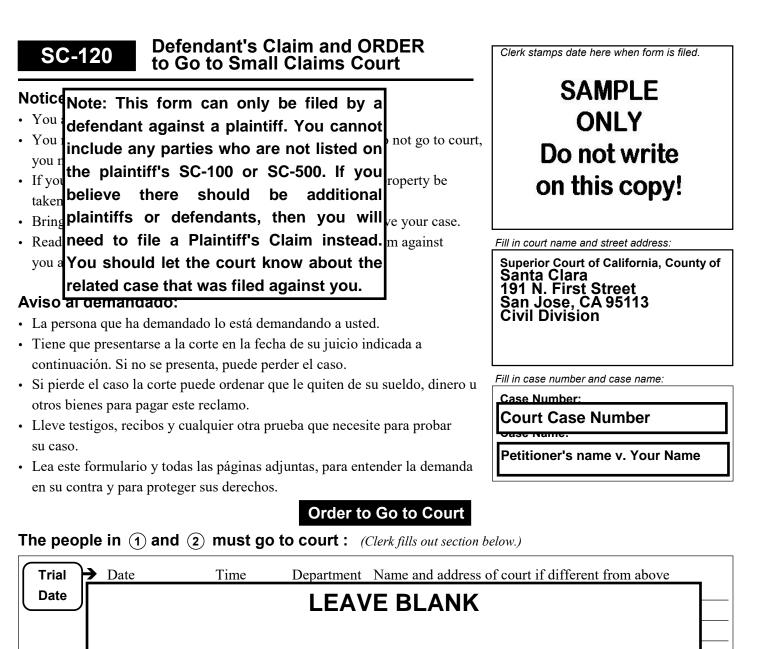
	6C-104A	Proof of Mailing (Subs	stituted Service)	Case Number:	
V		ned to Form SC-104. Use this for em to the person, business, or pu	•	e documents in (1)	and someone else
Not	ice to Server				
You	must:				
•	Be at least 18 and	not listed in this lawsuit.			
•	Fill out 1 -	6 of this form and attach	it to Form SC-104.		
(1)	Documents se	erved by mail:			
\bigcirc		Plaintiff's Claim and ORDER to) Go to Small Claims Court		
		Defendant's Claim and ORDER			
		pecify) :			
\bigcirc					
(2)		Iress of the person, busi	•	served:	
	a. If you served	a person, write the person's nan	ne and address below:		
	Name:				
	Address:	Street	City	State	Zin
	1 10 1	Street	City	State	Zip
	-	a business or public entity, write		the business or public	entity, the person
	authorized for	r service, and that person's job ti	tle:		
	Business or Pu	blic Entity Name	Person Authorized for Servic	е	Job Title
	Address:				
\bigcirc		Street	City	State	Zip
3		documents listed in (1) above	-		
		dressed the envelope to the perso	on, business, or public entity	y listed in (2) and	d mailed the envelope
	by leaving it at (ch	neck one) :			
	a. 🔲 A U.S. P	ostal Service mail drop or			
	b. 🔲 An office	e or business mail drop where I l	know the mail is picked up	every day and deposi	ted with the
	U.S. Pos	tal Service.			
\bigcirc	T 11.1 1				
4	I mailed the envelo	±			
	a. On (<i>date</i>) :	b	. From (city, state) :		
5	My address is:				
$\overbrace{6}$	I declare, under pe	enalty of perjury under California	a State law, that the informa	ation above is true and	d correct.
\bigcirc	, I	5 1 5 5	,		
	Date:				
			•		
	<i>Type or print serve</i>	er's name	Server signs h	ere after mailing	
Judicial	Council of California	nurtinfo ca dov 🛛 🗛 C C C			SC-104A, Page 1 of 1
Revised Code of	Council of California, www.cc January 1, 2006, Optional Fo Civil Procedure, §§ 116.340,	415.20 Proof of Maili (15.20	ing (Substituted Sei Small Claims)	rvice)	

CEB[®] Essential

Case Number:

SAMPLE **Defendant's Claim** Use this packet to fill out your "BLANK" forms.

Do not file or write in this packet.



Instructions for the person suing:

- *Before* you fill out this form, read Form SC-100-INFO, *Information for the Plaintiff*, to know your rights. Get SC-100-INFO at any courthouse or county law library, or go to: *www.courtinfo.ca.gov/forms*
- Fill out pages 2 and 3 of this form. Then make copies of **all** pages of this form. (Make 1 copy for each party named in this case and an extra copy for yourself.) Take or mail the original and these copies to the court clerk's office and pay the filing fee. The clerk will write the date of your trial in the box above.
- You must have someone at least 18—not you or anyone else listed in this case—give each Plaintiff a court-stamped copy of all 3 pages of this form and any pages this form tells you to attach. There are special rules for "serving," or delivering, this form to public entities, associations, and some businesses. See Forms SC-104, SC-104B, and SC-104C.
- Go to court on your trial date listed above. Bring witnesses, receipts, and any evidence you need to prove your case.



Date:

Defendant (list names): Your Name(s)		^{Case} Court Ca	se Number
1 The P Full Name of Plaintiff you Name:	are suing	sued first) is Phone: Pho	one # of Plaintiff
Street address:Address of Pers	on/Business you are s	suing	Zip
Mailing Mailing Address of Plain	tiff you are suing, if di		
If more than one Plaintiff, list ne	xt Plaintiff here:		
Name: Use this space if you are Street addr	e suing more than one Plai	ntiff Phone:	
Street	City	State	Zip
Mailin If there are more than 2 Pla		then complete and	d attach form SC-100A
 Check here if more than 2 Plaintiffs of Check here if any Plaintiff is on active 		s or her name here:	Complete if applicable
2 The D Your Name or Business Nan Name: Street address: Your Street Address	ne if claim is being filed by	a business You	ur Phone Number
Mailing address <i>(if different</i>) Your Mail	Ling Address, if differe	State nt from street addr State	es above zip
If more than one Defendant, list net Name: Use this space if more than or Street included on the SC-100 or SC-5	ne Defendant is suing (re	member, they must h	ave been
Mailing address (if different):	Oky	Giaio	
	s under a name that is no endant's name in item 2 as		
3 The Defendant claims the Plaint	iff owes \$ _ court costs	ount owed to you, n and process serving	-
Briefly explain why the Plaintiff owes		Date or range	of dates
b. When did this happen? (<i>Date</i>): If no specific date, give the time period	od: Date started:	when the action the action the through:	
c. How did you calculate the money ow		<u>court costs o</u> r fees for se	
7	one additional page questions in item 3.	if you need mor	re room to ^{n 3″}

Defe	endant (list names):	Case Court Case Number
4	You may ask the Plaintiff (in person, in writing, or by pho Have you done this?	one
5	Is your claim about an attorney-client fee dispute? If yes, and if you have had arbitration, fill out Form SC-101, attach it to	this form. and check here:
6	Are you suing a public entity? 🔲 Yes 🗖 🏹 you	eck one. If "Yes", write the date u filed your administrative claim. claim was filed on (date): allowed by law, you can file this form.
7	Have you filed more than 12 other small claims within the Yes \Box H If Check one his case will be higher.	e last 12 months in California?
8	I understand that by filing a claim in small claims court, I have	e no right to appeal this claim.
9	If I do not have enough money to pay for filing fees or service, I can ask	the court to waive those fees.
10	I have not filed, and understand that I cannot file, more than two small cl California during this calendar year.	aims cases for more than \$2,500 in
	I declare, under penalty of perjury under California State law, that the int this form is true and correct.	formation above and on any attachments to
	Date: Today's Date Print Your Name	Sign Your Name
	Defendant types or prints name here	Defendant signs here
	If there is a second defendant, they will date, print	and sign their name here.
	Date: Second Defendant types or prints name here	Second Defendant signs here
	Requests for Accommodations Assistive listening systems, computer-assisted, real-time of services are available if you ask at least five days before to www.courtinfo.ca.gov/forms for Request for Accommodation	the trial. Contact the clerk's office or go to

Or go to "County-Specific Court Information" at: www.courtinfo.ca.gov/selfhelp/smallclaims

SC-104 Proof of Service

Use this form to serve a **person**, a **business**, or a **public entity**. To learn more about proof of service, read *What Is "Proof of Service"*?, Form SC-104B. To learn more about how to serve a business or entity, read *How to Serve a Business or Public Entity*, Form SC-104C.

To serve a **business**, you must serve **one** of the following people:

- Owner (for a sole proprietorship)
- Partner (for a partnership) or general partner (for a limited partnership)
- Any officer or general manager (corporation or association)
- Any person authorized for service by the business (corporation, association, general partnership, limited partnership)
- Any person authorized for service with the Secretary of State (corporation, association, limited liability company [LLC], limited liability partnership [LLP], limited partnership)

To serve a **public entity**, you must first file a claim with that entity, then serve **one** of the following people:

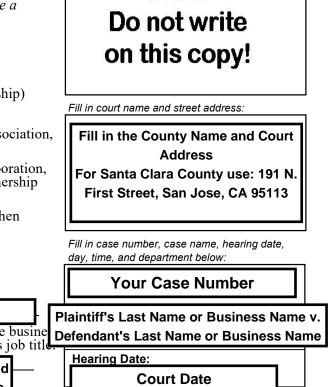
- Clerk (of a city or county)
- Chief officer or director (of a public agency)
- Any person authorized for service by the entity 1 a. If you are serving a **person**, write the pe

a. If you are serving a **person**, write the person's name below:

If you are suing an individual write their name here.

b. If you are serving a **business** or **entity**, write the name of the busine **Defendar** or entity, the person authorized for service, and that person's job title.

If you are suing a business/entity write the name here and write the name of the person who need to be served here.



Time and Dept. #

Clerk stamps date here when form is filed.

SAMPLE

ONLY

Person Authorized for Service Instructions to Server:

You must be at least 18 years old and **not be named in this case.** Follow these steps:

Job Title

- Give a copy of all the documents checked in (3) to the person in (1), *or*
- Give a copy of all the documents checked in (3) to one of the following people:
 - a. A competent adult (at least 18) living with, and at the home of the person in (1), or
 - b. An adult (at least 18) who seems to be in charge at the usual workplace of the person in (1), or
 - c. An adult (at least 18) who seems to be in charge where the person in ① usually receives mail (but not a U.S. Post Office box), if there is no known physical address for the person in ①.

and mail a copy of the documents left with one of the adults in a, b, or c above to the person in 1.

THEN

2

- Complete and sign this form, and
- Give or mail your completed form to the person who asked you to serve these court papers, *in time for the form to be filed with the court at least 5 days before the hearing.*

) I served the person in (1) a copy of the documents checked below:

- a. 🔲 SC-100, Plaintiff's Claim and ORDER to Go to Small Claims Court
- b. X SC-120, Defendant's Claim and ORDER to Go to Small Claims Court
- c. Order for examination (This form must be personally served. Check the form that was served): Note: The court can issue a civil arrest warrant if the served party does not come to court only if the order for examination was personally served by a registered process server, sheriff, marshal, or someone appointed by the court.
 - (1) SC-134, Application and Order to Produce Statement of Assets and to Appear for Examination
 - (2) AT-138/EJ-125, Application and Order for Appearance and Examination

d. Other (specify):

Case name: Defendant's Last Name or Busine		Your Case Number
	ness Name	
4 Fill out "a" or "b" bolow: a. Pers If the forms were handed	directly to the person	you are in (3) to the locate and time forms were banded
a. Pers Suing, complete item 4a.	(a.m. to the Plaintiff
At this address where Plainti City:	ff was handed the forms	
b. 🔲 Substitute If the forms were give		
competent adult (at least 18) at the nome of, and fivin	$\frac{1}{1}$ with the person in (1), or
Check the one that	applies ere the person in	(1) usually works, or (1) usually receives mail, or has a private
		no known physical address for the person in (1) .
I told that adult,"Please give these court		
		person at the place noted above
At this address: Addre	ess where the forms were	e delivered
City:	State	с Zip
Name or description of the nercon Law Write the name and/or descriptio		s handed the forms
		ed in (3) in an envelope, sealed the envelope,
	-	e to the person in (1) at the address where I
left the copies.)ato a conv of the forms	was mailed to the address
		ere the mailing took place
by leaving it <i>(check one)</i> :		
a. 🔲 🕂 a U.S. Postal Service mail o		
	e one that applies le mai	il is picked up every day and deposited with the
U.S. Postal Service, or		
completed Form SC-104A.	nail the documents to the p	person in (1) , and I have attached that person's
5 Server Name of perso	n who served the forms	and their phone number
Address:	Server's Street Ac	ddress
City:	City, State and Zip	o Code
Fee for s		
If you are a registered process server:	Decistra	tion number
County of registration:	Registra	
(6) I declare under penalty of perjury under C	alifornia state law that I a	m at least 18 years old and not named in this
Date server signed the form		
Date:		
Server's Name	Se	erver's Signature
Type or print server's name		ns here after serving
Type of print server's nume	Server sign	is note upon serving