

Laura Owens
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LAURA OWENS,
Petitioner in Pro Per

SUPERIOR COURT OF CALIFORNIA
IN AND FOR THE COUNTY OF SAN FRANCISCO

LAURA OWENS,
PETITIONER,

Vs.

MICHAEL MARRACCINI,
RESPONDENT.

Case No.: FDV-18-813693

**EX PARTE APPLICATION
FOR CONTINUANCE OF
HEARING**

Date: October 21 and 22,
2025

Time: 9:00 a.m.

Dept.: 405A

ELECTRONICALLY

FILED

*Superior Court of California,
County of San Francisco*

10/07/2025

Clerk of the Court

BY: JOSHUA MANDAPAT
Deputy Clerk

I. INTRODUCTION

Petitioner **Laura Owens** respectfully requests that the Court continue the long-cause hearing currently scheduled for **October 20–21, 2025**, and adjust all related deadlines.

Good cause exists under **California Rules of Court, rule 3.1332(c) and (d)** because of Petitioner's medical condition, her father's recent hospitalization, and her ongoing yet diligent efforts to secure counsel through approved legal referral programs.

This matter has been designated a **long-cause evidentiary hearing**, not a short or summary proceeding. Given its complexity, the overlapping motions, and the public

nature of the record, Petitioner cannot adequately represent herself. A short continuance will allow her to secure counsel and participate fully and fairly.

II. FACTUAL BACKGROUND

1. Family medical emergency.

Petitioner's father was hospitalized last week and continues to require 24/7 care.

Petitioner has been assisting daily with his medical management.

2. Petitioner's medical condition.

Petitioner has been advised to receive urgent evaluation and treatment for gastrointestinal bleeding.

3. Efforts to retain counsel.

Petitioner has been declared indigent by a court in Arizona. She has actively sought legal representation in this case through the San Francisco Bar Association's Lawyer Referral and Information Service (LRIS) and All for the Family Legal Clinic. She contacted both by October 1, 2025, and remains on their waiting lists. Both have said they will be able to assist if she can wait two to four weeks. These are legitimate, ongoing efforts showing diligence and good faith.

4. Complexity and public exposure of this matter.

This case has been designated a long-cause hearing and involves multiple pending motions and evidentiary issues. It has also drawn public attention through a group known as "Justice for Clayton," which reposts and comments on case filings. The

harassment and publicity surrounding this matter are described in prior filings by attorney David Gingras. Petitioner requires counsel to ensure filings are accurate, complete, and not misused publicly.

5. Efforts to resolve informally.

Petitioner contacted opposing counsel, Omar Serrato, on October 6 and 7, 2025, to request a short continuance while she secures counsel and addresses these medical issues. Counsel has not stipulated to a continuance as of this filing.

III. LEGAL STANDARD AND ARGUMENT

Under California Rules of Court, rule 3.1332(c):

“Circumstances that may indicate good cause include:

(1) The unavailability of an essential lay or expert witness because of death, illness, or other excusable circumstances;

(2) The unavailability of a party because of death, illness, or other excusable circumstances;

(3) The unavailability of trial counsel because of death, illness, or other excusable circumstances;

(4) The substitution of trial counsel; ... [and]

(6) A party’s excused inability to obtain essential evidence despite diligent efforts.”

Petitioner's situation satisfies several of these examples: her temporary medical unavailability, her father's hospitalization, and her documented, diligent attempts to secure representation all constitute "excusable circumstances" under the Rule.

Further, **rule 3.1332(d)** directs the Court to consider "all the facts and circumstances that are relevant," including "the proximity of the hearing date," whether there have been previous continuances, the length of the continuance requested, and whether "the interests of justice are best served by a continuance."

Here:

- The hearing is less than two weeks away;
- No recent continuances have been requested;
- Petitioner seeks a modest 45-day continuance; and
- Respondent will suffer no prejudice, while Petitioner will face extreme prejudice if forced to proceed unrepresented in a multi-day evidentiary hearing.

Given these factors, the **interests of justice are best served by granting the continuance.**

IV. PRAYER FOR RELIEF

Petitioner respectfully requests that the Court:

1. Continue the long-cause hearing currently set for **October 20–21, 2025**, for **approximately 45 days**, or such further time as the Court deems appropriate;
2. Adjust all associated deadlines for witness lists, exhibits, and briefing accordingly;
and
3. Grant such other relief as the Court deems just and proper.

Dated: October 7, 2025

Respectfully submitted,
/s/ Laura Owens

Laura Owens, Petitioner in Pro Per
Email: [REDACTED]