

First, read the court's decisions on Form SC-200, *Notice of Entry of Judgment*. It will tell you the court's judgment in this case. **Then read this form.** It will help you protect or enforce your rights, whether you won or lost the case.

Warning! You may lose important rights if you do not act within 30 days after the court handed or mailed you Form SC-200, *Notice of Entry of Judgment*. If the court mailed the *Notice of Entry of Judgment*, the date of mailing is on the *Clerk's Certificate of Mailing* that came with the notice.

If the court did not award you any money on a claim that you filed... The court's decision on your claim is *normally* final. You cannot appeal the decision on your own claim, but you may be allowed to ask the court to correct a mistake in the judgment.

If the court ordered you to pay money...

Pay the judgment creditor directly.

Ask the court to let you make payments. (To do this, file Form SC-220, *Request to Make Payments*.)

Warning!

If the court ordered you to pay money...

(continued)

If you disagree with the judgment ordering you to pay money, and you did not go to the trial, you can ask the court to vacate (cancel) the judgment. To do this, file Form SC-135, *Notice of Motion to Vacate Judgment*, **within 30 days*** after the *Notice of Entry of Judgment and Declaration* was handed or mailed to you. If the court denies your request, you have until 10 days from the date the notice of denial is mailed to file an appeal.

Exception:* If the claim against you was not properly served, you have **180 days from the date that you found out (or should have found out) about the judgment against you to file a request to cancel the judgment.

Unless you pay the judgment or file an appeal or a motion as discussed above, you must complete Form SC-133, *Judgment Debtor's Statement of Assets*, and deliver it to the judgment creditor within 30 days after the clerk delivered or mailed the Notice of Entry of Judgment.

Warning! If you do not deliver the completed Form

If the court ordered the other side to pay you...

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- To obtain the judgment debtor's financial records from another person or a company at a hearing, fill out Form SC-107, *Small Claims Subpoena and Declaration*, take it to the small claims court clerk to be issued, and then have it served.

Once you know about the judgment debtor's income and property, you can ask the sheriff to take that property to pay you. (Property that may be taken includes wages, bank accounts, automobiles, business property, and rental income.) To do this, fill out and ask the court clerk to issue Form EJ-130, *Writ of Execution*. Then, take the form to the sheriff's office with a description of the debtor's property.

You can also put a lien on the judgment debtor's house or other real estate. To do this, fill out and ask the court clerk to issue Form EJ-001, *Abstract of Judgment—Civil and Small Claims*. Then, take or mail the *Abstract* to the county recorder's office in the county where you think the debtor owns real property. If the judgment debtor sells, refinances, or buys real property in that county, your judgment should be paid from the debtor's funds.

After the judgment has been paid in full, you must fill out an *Acknowledgment of Satisfaction of Judgment* and file it with the court clerk. If an *Abstract of Judgment* has not been recorded, you may use Form SC-290. If an abstract has been recorded, use Form EJ-100.

Warning! If you do not file an *Acknowledgment of Satisfaction of Judgment*, you may have to pay the judgment debtor damages and a penalty.

You may need to pay fees to the court, the county recorder's office, or the sheriff for filing, issuing, and recording papers and doing the other things discussed above. Sometimes, you can ask the court to order the other side to repay you for these expenses.



Need help?

For free help, contact your county's small claims advisor:

[local info here]

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