

[Date]

[Names of Justices]

[Court Address]

[Court Address Line 2]

[City, State, Zip]

Re: Request to use pseudonyms or otherwise anonymize [Case Name], opinion filed [Date Filed]

Court of Appeal Case No. [Case Number]

Superior Court Case No. [Case Number]

Honorable Justice [Name], Justice [Name], Justice [Name]:

I, [Your Name], am submitting this letter to request that the above captioned opinion be changed to use initials or be otherwise anonymized in order to protect my identity pursuant to California Rules of Court, Rule 8.90.

The opinion was issued after [Opposing Party's Name] appealed from the Domestic Violence Restraining Order that was issued to protect me from further abuse by [Opposing Party's Name]. [Briefly describe how the case was decided, including who won, or if it was dismissed.] Unfortunately, however, by its mere existence, the appellate opinion is causing further harm and trauma to me. [Briefly describe the facts of the case and why the opinion is harmful to you, your work, and/or your family.] **[If the opinion is unpublished, write:** As the opinion is unpublished, I submit that there is neither a public interest nor an interest of justice in maintaining the opinion in its current form. **If the opinion is published, write:** Although the opinion is published, I submit that there is neither a public interest nor an interest of justice in maintaining the opinion in its current form.]

This request is consistent with California Rule of Court 8.90, which went into effect January 1, 2017. This rule encourages reviewing courts to consider referring to individuals by their initials when their privacy interests are at risk in appellate proceedings. (Judicial Council of California, Report to the Judicial Council, Family Law Issues Meeting (Nov. 7, 2016), available at: <http://www.courts.ca.gov/documents/famjuv-20161107-materials-family.pdf>, p. 6 [hereinafter Report to the Judicial Council].) The rule reads, "To protect personal privacy interests, in all opinions, the reviewing court should consider referring to the following people by first name and last initial or, if the first name is unusual or other circumstances would defeat the objective of anonymity, by initials only." (Cal. Rules of Court, rule 8.90(b).) Domestic violence survivors in restraining order matters are the first category of persons listed. (*Id.* at (b)(1).)

Because I am a victim of domestic violence, who will suffer further harm by virtue of the court's opinion using my name, I respectfully request that this court change the opinion to use initials or be otherwise anonymized pursuant to Rule 8.90. In this way, I can truly put these events behind me, and move forward with my life.

Sincerely,

[Your Name]