



Jay A Varney, Sheriff-Coroner

# Office of the Sheriff

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Madera County

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Civil Division  
2725 Falcon Dr.  
Madera, CA 93637  
Phone: (559) 675-7770  
Fax: (559) 675-8413

## Claim of Exemption Process

Upon completely filling out the appropriate Claim of Exemption form and Financial Statement; bring the original (*signed*) and two copies of the original signed Claim of Exemption and Financial Statement to the Madera Sheriff Civil Division located at the address notated above. The original will stay in our file and the copy will be mailed to the creditor/creditor's attorney.

The creditor will have 10 days (wage garnishment) or 15 days (enforcement of judgment) from the date of mailing to file a Notice of Opposition with our office if they oppose your modification request. You will then be notified of a hearing date by mail. Your claim will then be heard by a judge to determine the amount of modification.

If there is no response from the creditor within 10 days (wage garnishment) or 15 days (enforcement of judgment) from the date of mailing, our office will automatically modify your garnishment to the amount you requested as specified on Claim of Exemption turned into our office.

It is beneficial to file this claim with our office as soon as possible. **Filing this Claim of Exemption DOES NOT stop the wage garnishment or levy process**, but it will delay any disbursement of funds to the creditor until a determination has been made. After a garnishment amount has been determined, any excess monies above the determined amount will be returned to you as a refund.