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Superior Court of California, County of Los Angeles

# NEWS RELEASE

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**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:**  
**July 10, 2020**

## **PRESIDING JUDGE KEVIN C. BRAZILE ISSUES NEW GENERAL ORDER DELAYING TRIALS AS COVID-19 PANDEMIC CONTINUES UNABATED**

***Court Hearings in all Litigation Types Continue to Ramp Up this Summer with the Help of Remote Appearances***

***Trials Continued Under Terms of New Order in Effect Through August 10, 2020***

Presiding Judge Kevin C. Brazile announced today he has received approval from Chief Justice Tani G. Cantil-Sakauye to issue a new emergency Order pursuant to the emergency powers granted to him under Government Code 68115. Under today's Order, the Court – which has not held any jury trials since March 17 – would resume Criminal jury trials in August 2020.

“Throughout this unprecedented public health crisis, the Court has implemented measures designed to protect the public it serves while safeguarding the rights of all participants in court proceedings,” Presiding Judge Brazile said. “The Court continues to evaluate this balance as the novel coronavirus contagion rate in Los Angeles County increases and public health authorities provide more guidance about how to slow its spread.”

Under the Order, and to safeguard the well-being of court users and enforce social distancing:

**-MORE-**

**GENERAL ORDER  
2-2-2-2**

- Prescheduled appointments are required for in-person services from the Clerk's Office, court support services, and/or the Self-Help Center. Appointments may be made the same day for persons seeking Restraining Orders who have completed paperwork and arrive at the courthouse no later than 3 p.m. For telephone or video assistance, or to schedule an appointment, the telephone number for each courthouse is listed at the courthouse entrance and posted on the Court's website ([www.lacourt.org](http://www.lacourt.org)).
- Access to proceedings shall be limited to the judicial officer presiding, Court personnel, parties, counsel, witnesses and those members of the public (including news reporters/media representatives) who can be accommodated in the designated courtroom while enforcing social distancing.
- Parties and counsel are strongly advised to consider using technology for remote appearances, whenever possible.
- In accordance with the July 6 General Order, all persons are to wear face coverings over their nose and mouth while they are in a courthouse. Persons whose disabilities preclude them from wearing face coverings are urged to seek an accommodation under Rule 1.100 of the California Rules of Court in advance of their appearance.

The Court's *Here For You | Safe For You* initiative is designed to provide a safe courthouse environment while offering services that allow court business to be conducted remotely.

Information on *Here For You | Safe For You* can be found [here](#) and on the Court's Twitter page (@[LASuperiorCourt](#)).

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Superior Court of California  
County of Los Angeles

JUL 10 2020

Sherri R. Carter, Executive Officer/Clerk

By Rizalinda Mina, Deputy  
Rizalinda Mina

SUPERIOR COURT OF THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA  
FOR THE COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES

ADMINISTRATIVE ORDER OF THE  
PRESIDING JUDGE RE COVID-19  
PANDEMIC

**GENERAL ORDER**

As the COVID-19 pandemic continues unabated, the Superior Court of California, County of Los Angeles (Court or LASC) continues to implement measures designed to protect the public it serves and those whose livelihood depends on the Court while safeguarding the rights of all participants in court proceedings. The Court must continually evaluate the balance between those twin concerns as the novel coronavirus contagion rate in Los Angeles County increases and Public Health authorities provide more guidance about how to slow its spread.

To that end, the Court again sought and obtained authority from Chief Justice Tani Cantil-Sakauye to issue judicial emergency orders under Government Code section 68115 continuing certain cases.

**ACCORDINGLY, THE COURT HEREBY FINDS, AND ORDERS AS FOLLOWS:**

**1. Courthouse Access & Remote Appearances:**

- a. In the interest of safeguarding the well-being of court users and enforcing social distancing, persons seeking services from the Clerk’s Office, court support services, and/or the Self-Help Center must have a prescheduled appointment. Appointments may be made the same day for persons seeking restraining orders who have

1 completed paperwork and arrive at the courthouse no later than 3:00 p.m. For  
2 telephone or video assistance, or to schedule an appointment, the telephone number  
3 for each courthouse is listed at the courthouse entry and posted on the Court's  
4 website, [www.lacourt.org](http://www.lacourt.org).

- 5 b. Access to LASC proceedings shall be limited to the judicial officer presiding, Court  
6 personnel, parties, counsel, witnesses, and those members of the public (including  
7 news reporters and news media representatives) as can be accommodated in the  
8 designated courtroom while enforcing social distancing. The determination of  
9 courtroom capacity shall be made by the Judge or Commissioner presiding in the  
10 courtroom.
- 11 c. In furtherance of Executive Order N-33-20, paragraph 4, subpart (b), and as required  
12 by the California Rules of Court, Emergency Rule 12, the Court orders all parties  
13 who use e-filing to accept electronic service, except in those circumstances when  
14 personal service is required by law or where any of the parties are self-represented.
- 15 d. Parties and counsel are strongly urged to make use of technology for remote  
16 appearances, whenever possible.
- 17 e. Judicial officers retain the discretion to require the use of technology for remote  
18 appearances for the duration of this general order.

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20 **2. Face Coverings and Social Distancing:**

- 21 a. In accordance with General Order No. 2020-GEN-016-01 issued on July 6, 2020, all  
22 persons are required to wear face coverings over their nose and mouth while they are  
23 in a courthouse. Persons whose disabilities preclude them from wearing face  
24 coverings compliant with the California Department of Public Health Guidance  
25 Concerning the Use of Face Coverings issued on June 18, 2020, are urged to seek an  
26 accommodation under Rule 1.100 of the California Rules of Court in advance of their  
27 appearance.

- 1           b. To enforce social distancing, each court shall schedule only the number of matters  
2           during each session that it can conduct while enforcing social distancing  
3           requirements.

4       **3. Continuances:**

5           a.     Criminal:

6                   i.     The Court extends the time period provided under section 825 of the Penal  
7                   Code within which a defendant charged with a felony offense must be taken  
8                   before a magistrate from 48 hours to not more than seven (7) days,  
9                   applicable only to cases in which the statutory deadline otherwise would  
10                  expire from **July 10, 2020 to August 8, 2020**, inclusive.

11                  ii.    Pursuant to the authority granted by the March 30, 2020 Statewide  
12                  Emergency Order by Tani G. Cantil-Sakauye, Chief Justice of California  
13                  and Chair of the Judicial Council which the Court implemented in its  
14                  General Order No. 2020-GEN-07-00 issued on April 2, 2020, and until  
15                  further notice, the Court extends the time provided by section 859b of the  
16                  Penal Code for the holding of a preliminary examination and the  
17                  defendant's right to release from 10 court days to not more than 30 court  
18                  days.

19                  iii.   The Court extends the time period provided in section 1382 of the Penal  
20                  Code for the holding of a criminal trial by not more than 30 days, applicable  
21                  only to cases in which the statutory deadline otherwise would expire from  
22                  **July 15, 2020 to September 14, 2020**, inclusive.

23                  iv.    The Court extends by 90 court days the time to submit status reports and  
24                  progress reports for defendants for whom a status report or progress report  
25                  was due from **July 10, 2020 to August 8, 2020**, inclusive. The court shall  
26                  provide notice of when the new proceeding will be held.

- 1 v. The Court extends by 90 court days, unless statutorily required otherwise,  
2 the time to hold misdemeanor post-arraignment proceedings in which the  
3 defendant is out of custody that would otherwise be set from **July 10, 2020**  
4 **to August 8, 2020**, inclusive.
- 5 b. Juvenile Dependency and Juvenile Delinquency:
- 6 i. The Court extends the time periods provided in section 313 of the Welfare  
7 and Institutions Code within which a minor taken into custody pending  
8 dependency proceedings must be released from custody to not more than  
9 **seven (7) days**, applicable only to minors for whom the statutory deadline  
10 would otherwise expire from **July 10, 2020 to August 8, 2020**, inclusive.
- 11 ii. The Court extends the time periods provided in section 315 of the Welfare  
12 and Institutions Code within which a minor taken into custody pending  
13 dependency proceedings must be given a detention hearing to not more than  
14 **seven (7) days**, applicable only to minors for whom the statutory deadline  
15 would otherwise expire from **July 10, 2020 to August 8, 2020**, inclusive.
- 16 iii. The Court extends the time periods provided in sections 632 and 637 of the  
17 Welfare and Institutions Code within which a minor taken into custody  
18 pending wardship proceedings and charged with a felony offense must be  
19 given a detention hearing or rehearing to not more than **seven (7) days**,  
20 applicable only to minors for whom the statutory deadline would otherwise  
21 expire from **July 10, 2020 to August 8, 2020**, inclusive.
- 22 iv. The Court extends the time period provided in section 334 of the Welfare  
23 and Institutions Code within which a hearing on a juvenile dependency  
24 petition must be held by not more than **fifteen (15) days**, applicable only to  
25 minors for whom the statutory deadline would otherwise expire from **July**  
26 **10, 2020 to August 8, 2020**, inclusive.
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1 v. The Court extends the time period provided in section 657 of the Welfare  
2 and Institutions Code within which a hearing on a wardship petition for a  
3 minor charged with a felony offense must be held by not more than **fifteen**  
4 **(15) days**, applicable only to minors for whom the statutory deadline  
5 otherwise would expire from **July 10, 2020 to August 8, 2020**, inclusive.

6 c. Unlawful Detainer:

7 The Court deems **July 10, 2020 to August 8, 2020**, inclusive, a holiday/holidays for  
8 purposes of computing time under Code of Civil Procedure section 1167. The Court  
9 finds good cause to continue all unlawful detainer trials without a determination  
10 pursuant to Code of Civil Procedure section 1170.5(c).

11 d. Small Claims:

12 The Court deems **July 10, 2020 to August 8, 2020**, inclusive, a holiday/holidays for  
13 purposes of computing the time under Code of Civil Procedure section 116.330(a)  
14 (requires a small claims matter to be scheduled for hearing no earlier than 20 days  
15 but not more than 70 days from the date of the order directing the parties to appear  
16 at the hearing).

17 e. Traffic and Infractions:

18 All traffic and infraction arraignments and trials scheduled from **July 10, 2020 to**  
19 **August 8, 2020**, inclusive, are continued. The parties shall receive notice of the  
20 date on which the hearing shall be set.

21 f. Trials:

22 i. All non-jury trials, unless statutorily required otherwise, including in Civil,  
23 Criminal, Family Law, Juvenile Dependency, Probate, and Traffic,  
24 scheduled from **July 10, 2020 to August 8, 2020**, inclusive, are continued  
25 until further notice. All pre-trial dates for trials that are continued pursuant  
26 to paragraph (f) are also continued consistent with the new trial date.  
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