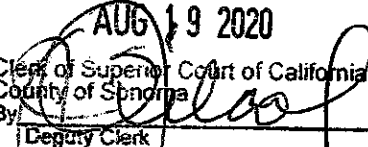


1 HONORABLE BRADFORD J. DEMEO  
2 PRESIDING JUDGE  
3 SONOMA COUNTY SUPERIOR COURT  
4 600 Administration Drive  
5 Santa Rosa, CA 95403

**FILED**

AUG 19 2020  
Clerk of Superior Court of California,  
County of Sonoma  
By:   
Deputy Clerk

7  
8 SUPERIOR COURT OF THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA  
9 COUNTY OF SONOMA

10  
11 IN RE: ORDER TO CONTINUE ALL  
12 PENDING SMALL CLAIMS MATTERS  
13

14  
15 On March 16, 2020, and in consideration of the public health crisis currently affecting  
16 our state, local, national, and international communities, the Sonoma County Superior Court  
17 issued an order limiting access to the Hall of Justice, Civil and Family Courthouse, the Juvenile  
18 Justice Center and the Empire Annex.

19  
20 On March 16, 2020, this Court issued an emergency implementing order under the  
21 authority of the March 16, 2020 Order of Chief Justice Tani G. Cantil-Sakauye, Chair of the  
22 Judicial Council of California, issued in response to the March 16, 2020 request for an  
23 emergency order made by the Superior Court of Sonoma County pursuant to Government Code §  
24 68115.

25  
26 On March 17, 2020, the County of Sonoma Public Health Officer issued an order  
27 directing all individuals living in Sonoma County to shelter at their place of residence except that  
28 they may leave to provide or receive certain essential services or engage in certain essential  
activities and work for essential businesses and governmental services to mitigate the spread of  
COVID-19.

1  
2 On March 19, 2020, the Governor of California issued an order directing all Californians  
3 to shelter in place at their place of residence except as needed to maintain continuity of  
4 operations of the federal critical infrastructure sectors to protect public health and ensure the  
5 healthcare delivery system is capable of serving all and prioritizing those at the highest risk and  
6 vulnerability.

7  
8 On March 23, 2020, Chief Justice Tani G. Cantil-Sakauye, Chair of the Judicial Council  
9 of California, issued a statewide order addressing additional issues raised by the ongoing  
10 pandemic.

11 On March 27, 2020, this Court issued a supplemental emergency implementing order  
12 under the authority of the March 27, 2020 Order of Chief Justice Tani G. Cantil-Sakauye, Chair  
13 of the Judicial Council of California, pursuant to Government Code § 68115. On March 28,  
14 2020, the Judicial Council of California unanimously approved recommendations which have  
15 been enacted statewide by Order of the Chief Justice on March 30, 2020.

16 On April 1, 2020 this Court issued a General Order Re: Implementation of Emergency  
17 Relief Authorized by Chair of Judicial Council.

18  
19 On April 6, 2020, the Judicial Council adopted Emergency Rules 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9,  
20 10, and 11 of the California Rules of Court. On April 17, 2020, the Judicial Council adopted  
21 Emergency Rule 12, and on April 20, 2020 adopted Emergency Rule 13 of the California Rules  
22 of Court.

23  
24 On April 16, 2020 the Court issued Omnibus General Order of the Presiding Judge re  
25 Court Operations, and amended on April 27, 2020, with Addendum to First Amended Omnibus  
26 order of the Presiding Judge filed on May 27, 2020.

1 Essential functions of the Superior Court at this time are limited to proceedings that are  
2 required to comply with defendants' constitutional rights, protect the health and safety of parties  
3 and address jail population concerns.

4  
5 Protection of public health and safety in connection with the COVID-19 threat has  
6 resulted or is expected to result in significant interference with Superior Court services and  
7 proceedings.

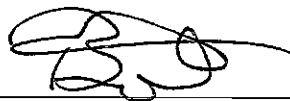
8 WHEREAS, the COVID-19 international pandemic has impacted the Sonoma County  
9 Superior Court ("Court") in significant and unprecedented ways such that extraordinary  
10 measures are required for the health, safety and security of the Court's employees, judicial  
11 officers and the public in general; and

12 WHEREAS, current conditions in Sonoma County indicate elevated positivity to testing  
13 for COVID-19 and increased incidence of wide spread of the virus in our community.

14 Accordingly, and for the foregoing reasons, under the authority granted to me by the prior  
15 orders filed and made by this Court pursuant to Government Code, section 68115, and for good  
16 cause shown, this Court **ORDERS AS FOLLOWS:**

17 **All small claims actions currently pending in the Sonoma County Superior Court**  
18 **shall be continued to a future date beginning with November 9, 2020. The clerk of the**  
19 **court shall cause notice of new hearing dates to be sent to all parties.**

20  
21 Dated: 8/19/2020



22 Bradford DeMeo Presiding Judge  
23  
24  
25  
26  
27  
28