

**SUPERIOR COURT OF THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA  
IN AND FOR THE COUNTY OF SONOMA**

**FILED**

MAR 24 2020

Clerk of the Superior Court of California  
County of Sonoma  
By RB Deputy Clerk

**In Re:**

**Amended Order of the Presiding Judge**

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On March 16, 2020, and in consideration of the public health crisis currently affecting our state, local, national, and international communities, the Sonoma County Superior Court issued an order limiting access to the Hall of Justice, Civil and Family Courthouse, the Juvenile Justice Center and the Empire Annex. Said order is attached hereto as Exhibit A.

On March 16, 2020, this Court issued an emergency implementing order under the authority of the March 16, 2020 Order (“Order”) of Chief Justice Tani G. Cantil-Sakauye, Chair of the Judicial Council of California, issued in response to the March 16, 2020 request for an emergency order made by the Superior Court of Sonoma County.

On March 17, 2020, the County of Sonoma Public Health Officer issued an order directing all individuals living in Sonoma County to shelter at their place of residence except that 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.

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

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

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

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

Accordingly, and for the foregoing reasons, this court **HEREBY FINDS AND ORDERS AS FOLLOWS:**

1. The General Order, issued by this Court on March 16, 2020, and attached hereto as Exhibit A is amended, retroactively, as follows:

**Preamble:**

- Delete: “The Court currently plans to resume regular court operations on Monday, April 6, 2020.”
- Replace with : “The Court currently plans to resume regular court operations on Wednesday, April 8, 2020, subject to change if the Sonoma County Health Officer’s Orders are extended.”

**Criminal Matters in the Hall of Justice:**

Paragraphs A.1 & 2

- Delete: “...between March 16, 2020 to and including April 3, 2020....”
- Replace with: “...between March 16, 2020 to and including April 7, 2020....”

Paragraph B.1

- Delete: “...between March 16, 2020 and March 31, 2020...”
- Replace with: “...between March 16, 2020 and May 22, 2020...”

Paragraph B.2

- Delete: “...between March 16, 2020 and March 31, 2020...”
- Replace with: “...between March 16, 2020 and May 22, 2020...”
- Delete: “...on or after April 7, 2020 or a later time the parties agree upon.”
- Replace with: “on or after April 8, 2020 or a later time the parties agree upon.”

Paragraph B.3 & 4

- Delete: “...March 16, 2020, and March 31, 2020, inclusive...”
- Replace with: “...March 16, 2020, and April 7, 2020, inclusive....”

Paragraph C.1

- Delete: "...March 16, 2020, and March 31, 2020, inclusive..."
- Replace with : "...March 16, 2020, and April 7, 2020, inclusive..."

Paragraph C.2

- Delete: "All other criminal matters with appearances set between March 1, 2020 to and including March 31, 2020, 30 days after the scheduled appearance on a day-to-day rolling basis."
- Replace with: "All other criminal matters with appearances set between March 16, 2020 to and including April 7, 2020, will be rescheduled by further order of the Court."

**Civil and Probate Matters**

Paragraph 1

- Delete: "...between March 16, 2020 and March 31, 2020."
- Replace with: "...between March 16, 2020 and April 7, 2020, inclusive,..."

**Family Law Matters**

Paragraph A

- Delete: "...between March 16, 2020 and March 31, 2020."
- Replace with: "...between March 16, 2020 and April 7, 2020, inclusive,..."

**IT IS SO ORDERED.**

Dated: March 24, 2020

Bradford DeMeo  
Presiding Judge of the Superior Court

