



SUPERIOR COURT OF
CALIFORNIA
COUNTY OF RIVERSIDE
4050 Main Street
Riverside, CA 92501

951.777.3163

NEWS RELEASE

RIVERSIDE SUPERIOR COURT CONTINUES HEARING EMERGENCY MATTERS DURING COVID-19 - UPDATE -

Release Date: March 27, 2020

Contact: Marita C. Ford, Public Information Officer

RIVERSIDE COUNTY:

The Riverside Superior Court continues to operate in a limited capacity, hearing emergency matters only, since its closure on March 20, 2020 ([Press Release March 19, 2020](#)). The court is evaluating on a daily basis any changes that may be necessary as a result of health mandates related to COVID-19. This includes the current closure end date of April 3, 2020 as well as the reduced hours of operation (9:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m.), with the goal being to address the highest priority court services that affect public safety in a way to minimize in-court appearances.

Order re: Implementation of Emergency Relief – on March 23, 2020 the court's Presiding Judge signed a [Second Amended Order re: Implementation of Emergency Relief Authorized per Government Code section 68115](#) in response to the [Statewide Order](#) by Honorable Tani G. Cantil-Sakauye, Chief Justice of the California Supreme Court on that same day.

Priority Matters – the court is handling only emergency matters affecting public health & safety. These are listed in the March 19, 2020 press release and include but are not limited to:

- In-custody arraignments, preliminary hearings and priority sentencing hearings;
- Restraining orders in civil, criminal, family, juvenile and probate;
- Emergency ex-parte applications in civil, criminal, family, juvenile and probate;
- Temporary guardianship and temporary conservatorship cases; and
- Juvenile detention hearings.

Video Arraignments – In addition to current telephonic appearance capabilities, the court will be going live with video technology for arraignments and associated matters so that in-custody defendants can remain in the jail and counsel and interpreters can provide services from their offices in order to adhere to the CDC social distancing recommendation.

Website – in an effort to provide accurate, timely and critical information to all court customers, the court has developed a new website page providing information on [COVID-19 Court Operations](#). This will include current matters handled, court closures, hours of operation, directions for electronic document submission and telephonic appearances, jury duty, and detailed information by case type.

Social Distancing – the court is complying with federal, state and local guidelines on social distancing, including limited staffing, teleworking, exploring remote technologies for limited case matters, and maintaining a distance of six feet between individuals who are working in the same area within a courthouse. The court has also increased janitorial rotations which include heightened sanitation efforts and provision of health-related supplies to employees.

Jury Duty – Jurors who have received a summons for service should **not report during this period of time**, but rather request a postponement by utilizing one of the following options:

- Log on to the [Juror Web Portal](#); or
- Use the automated phone system at: 951.275.5076 or 760.342.6264

We appreciate the support and understanding of the public and justice partners during these challenging times.

Electronic version available at <https://riverside.courts.ca.gov/GeneralInfo/MediaInfo/media-info.php>

####