



FILED
Superior Court of California
County of Los Angeles
MAR 20 2020
Sherri A. Carter, Executive Officer/Clerk of Court
By Neil Simpson Deputy

SUPERIOR COURT OF CALIFORNIA
JUVENILE DIVISION
COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES

**STANDING ORDER TEMPORARILY SUSPENDING DEPENDENCY COURT
ORDERED IN-PERSON VISITATION DUE TO COVID-19**

On March 4, 2020, the Governor of the State of California declared a State of Emergency as a result of the introduction and spread of the COVID-19 virus.

On March 13, 2020, the President of the United States similarly declared a National Emergency.

The Governor of the State of California issued a statewide "Stay at Home" order on March 19, 2020, explaining that 56% of the state residents could contract COVID-19.

In addition, the Mayor of the City of Los Angeles issued a "Safe at Home" statement on March 19, 2020, advising residents to remain at home as much as possible to protect both themselves and the community from increasing risk from the virus.

Furthermore, on March 19, 2020, the County of Los Angeles Department of Public Health published an order by the Health Officer restricting social contact in order to minimize transmission of COVID-19.

Visitation is mandated between children in out-of-home care and their parents and legal guardians, and the court is to promote sibling relationships consistent with the well-

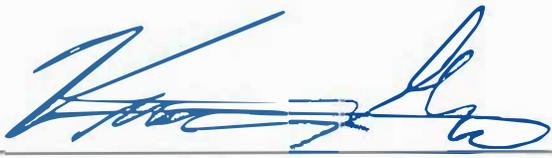
1 being of the child. In light of the present public health emergency, the court must
2 balance this mandate against health concerns which informed the governmental actions
3 delineated above.

4
5 In consideration of the COVID-19 pandemic, emergency proclamations by federal,
6 state, and local authorities, and the reasons pertaining thereto, as well as balancing
7 legal mandates to support visitation while ensuring the safety and well-being of children
8 subject to orders of the Los Angeles Juvenile Court, the court finds in-person visitation
9 poses an imminent health and safety risk. Good cause is therefore found for the
10 following appropriate and urgent orders for the protection of those children under its
11 care:

- 12 1. Court ordered in-person visitation between, parents, legal guardians, siblings, and any other
13 persons shall be temporarily suspended, subject to modification by this court.
- 14 2. The Department of Children and Family Services (DCFS) shall implement wherever feasible
15 remote visitation, by Facebook, Skype, telephone or any similar technology to ensure that
16 children are provided with an opportunity to maintain contact with those persons who were
17 previously ordered to have in-person or remote visitation rights by the court.
- 18 3. In instances in which those persons or the child lacks necessary equipment to satisfy this
19 order, DCFS shall make efforts to ensure such contact occurs.
- 20 4. DCFS has discretion to allow children with an existing court order of either unmonitored
overnight visitation, or an existing court order granting DCFS discretion to permit unmonitored
overnight visitation, to remain on an extended visit with their parent(s) or legal guardian(s)
during the time period referenced in this order.

21 **This order is effective immediately, and shall continue until April 16, 2020, unless**
22 **otherwise modified by the court.**

23
24 DATED: 3/20/20

25 
26 VICTOR H. GREENBERG
27 Presiding Judge of the Juvenile Court
28 Los Angeles Superior Court