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Superior Court of California, County of Los Angeles

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

March 25, 2021

PRESIDING JUDGE ERIC C. TAYLOR ISSUES NEW ORDER TO EXTEND CERTAIN CASE DEADLINES WHILE THE COURT PACES ITS SAFE RESUMPTION OF JURY TRIALS AND EXPANDS ACCESS TO JUSTICE

Presiding Judge Eric C. Taylor today thanked Chief Justice Tani G. Cantil-Sakauye for granting him the emergency authority to issue a new General Order extending last-day deadlines for Criminal trials, as well as Juvenile Dependency matters. With the help of effective Department of Public Health-approved safety measures established in all courthouses, the Order assists the Court in the safe expansion of Civil and Criminal jury trials throughout the county.

"With the devastating COVID-19 holiday surge behind us and State and County officials gradually reopening Los Angeles County, we are pleased to work with our justice partners to responsibly expand access to justice after more than a year since the pandemic's sudden onset," Presiding Judge Taylor said. "Today's Order will help the Court to safely expand Criminal trials by providing emergency continuances for matters facing statutory last-day deadlines while the Court works with justice partners to prioritize which cases should proceed first post-surge with courthouse capacities limited due to social distancing and necessary COVID-19 protocols. With the help of Angelenos fulfilling their civic jury service duty, cooperation from attorneys and justice partners, the Court is deliberately and safely working its way back to resume more jury trials and access to justice to all in need."

The Order, which is attached, extends deadlines as follows:

Criminal:

- Extends the time provided by section 859b of the Penal Code for the holding of a preliminary examination and the defendant's right to release from 10 court days to not more than 30 court days.

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GENERAL ORDER

2-2-2-2

- Extends the time period provided in section 1382 of the Penal Code for the holding of a Criminal trial by not more than 30 days, applicable only to cases in which the original or previously extended statutory deadline otherwise would expire from **March 27, 2021 to April 23, 2021**, inclusive.
- Extends by 90 calendar days post-conviction progress reports set on **March 27, 2021 to April 23, 2021**, inclusive.
- Extends by 90 calendar days, unless statutorily required to be held sooner and the defendant does not consent to a continuance, out-of-custody misdemeanor pretrial hearings set on **March 27, 2021 to April 23, 2021**, inclusive.

Juvenile Dependency:

- Extends the time periods provided in section 313 of the Welfare and Institutions Code within which a minor taken into custody pending Dependency proceedings must be released from custody to not more than seven (7) days, applicable only to minors for whom the statutory deadline would otherwise expire from **March 27, 2021 to April 23, 2021**, inclusive.
- Extends the time periods provided in section 315 of the Welfare and Institutions Code within which a minor taken into custody pending Dependency proceedings must be given a detention hearing to not more than seven (7) days, applicable only to minors for whom the statutory deadline would otherwise expire from **March 27, 2021 to April 23, 2021**, inclusive.

The Court also orders:

Courthouse Access and Remote Appearances:

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 Centers must have a prescheduled appointment. For telephone or video assistance, or [to schedule an appointment](#), the telephone number for each courthouse is listed at the courthouse entry and posted on the Court's website, www.lacourt.org.

Access to LASC proceedings is governed by [General Order 2020-GEN-025-00](#) issued on November 23, 2020.

Face Coverings:

In accordance with [Amended General Order 2021-GEN-009-02](#) issued on February 25, 2021, all persons are required to wear face coverings over their nose and mouth while in a courthouse. Persons whose disabilities preclude them from wearing face coverings compliant with the California Department of Public Health [Guidance Concerning the Use of Face Coverings](#) issued on June 18, 2020, are urged to seek an accommodation under [Rule 1.100](#) of the California Rules of Court in advance of their court appearance or appointment.

These health and safety requirements are part of the Court's *Here For You | Safe For You*

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GENERAL ORDER

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initiative, which provides numerous protective measures to operate courthouses safely, including offering services that allow court business to be conducted remotely. Whether appearing by phone, from home, the office or coming to the courthouse, the Court provides safe, efficient options to access justice. The Court's remote courtroom appearance technology options promote social distancing by reducing the number of people appearing in person.

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

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FILED
 Superior Court of California
 County of Los Angeles

MAR 25 2021

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

While the number of COVID-19 cases in Los Angeles County have decreased and the number of persons being vaccinated against the coronavirus is increasing, the Superior Court of Los Angeles County (LASC or Court) must remain vigilant about operating safely. Among other things, it will continue to limit the number of persons in its courthouses and continue to enforce its mask and social distancing protocols.

THE COURT HEREBY FINDS, AND ORDERS AS FOLLOWS:

1. Courthouse Access and 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 Centers must have a prescheduled appointment. For telephone or video assistance, or [to schedule an appointment](#), the telephone number for each courthouse is listed at the courthouse entry and posted on the Court's website, www.lacourt.org.
- b. Access to LASC proceedings is governed by [General Order 2020-GEN-025-00](#) issued on November 23, 2020.

1 **2. Face Coverings:**

2 In accordance with [Amended General Order 2021-009-02](#), all persons are required to
3 wear face coverings over their nose and mouth while in a courthouse. Persons whose
4 disabilities preclude them from wearing face coverings compliant with the California
5 Department of Public Health [Guidance Concerning the Use of Face Coverings](#) issued
6 on June 18, 2020, are urged to seek an accommodation under [Rule 1.100](#) of the
7 California Rules of Court in advance of their court appearance or appointment.

8 **3. Judicial Emergency Order Continuances:**

9 a. Juvenile Dependency

- 10 i. The Court extends the time periods provided in section 313 of the Welfare and
11 Institutions Code within which a minor taken into custody pending dependency
12 proceedings must be released from custody to not more than seven (7) days,
13 applicable only to minors for whom the statutory deadline would otherwise expire
14 from **March 27, 2021, to April 23, 2021**, inclusive.
- 15 ii. The Court extends the time periods provided in section 315 of the Welfare and
16 Institutions Code within which a minor taken into custody pending dependency
17 proceedings must be given a detention hearing to not more than seven (7) days,
18 applicable only to minors for whom the statutory deadline would otherwise expire
19 from **March 27, 2021, to April 23, 2021**, inclusive.

20 b. Criminal

- 21 i. Pursuant to the authority granted by the [March 30, 2020 Statewide Emergency](#)
22 [Order](#) issued by the Honorable Tani G. Cantil-Sakauye, Chief Justice of California
23 and Chair of the Judicial Council which the Court implemented in its [General Order](#)
24 [No. 2020-GEN-007-00](#) issued on April 2, 2020, and until further notice, the Court
25 extends the time provided by section 859b of the Penal Code for the holding of a
26 preliminary examination and the defendant's right to release from 10 court days to
27 not more than 30 court days.

- ii. The Court extends the time period provided in section 1382 of the Penal Code for the holding of a criminal trial by not more than 30 days, applicable only to cases in which the original or previously extended statutory deadline otherwise would expire from **March 27, 2021, to April 23, 2021**, inclusive.
- iii. The Court extends by 90 calendar days post-conviction progress reports set on **March 27, 2021, to April 23, 2021**, inclusive.
- iv. The Court extends by 90 calendar days, unless statutorily required to be held sooner and the defendant does not consent to a continuance, out-of-custody misdemeanor pretrial hearings set on **March 27, 2021, to April 23, 2021**, inclusive.

THIS ORDER IS EFFECTIVE IMMEDIATELY AND WILL REMAIN IN EFFECT UNTIL FURTHER NOTICE, OR UNTIL ITS PROVISIONS EXPIRE BY THEIR TERMS, ARE RESCINDED, AMENDED, OR ARE SUPERSEDED BY SUBSEQUENT ORDERS. THIS ORDER MAY BE AMENDED AS CIRCUMSTANCES REQUIRE. GOOD CAUSE APPEARING THEREFOR, IT IS SO ORDERED.

DATED: March 25, 2021



Eric C. Taylor

 ERIC C. TAYLOR
 Presiding Judge