

SUPERIOR COURT OF CALIFORNIA, COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES

COVID-19 TIMELINE OF EVENTS

Date	Action Taken by the Court
March 4, 2020	<p>In response to the spread of COVID-19, Governor of California Gavin Newsom declares a state of emergency in California.</p> <p>The Los Angeles County Board of Supervisors (Board) and the Los Angeles County Department of Public Health (LA DPH) declares a local and public health emergency in response to the increased spread of coronavirus across the County of Los Angeles.</p>
March 12, 2020	<p>Governor of California Gavin Newsom issues Executive Order N-25-20, which refers to guidance relating to COVID-19 from the California Department of Public Health (CDPH). The CDPH finds, among other things, that "smaller gatherings held in venues that do not allow social distancing of six feet per person should be postponed or cancelled . . . [and a] 'gathering' is any event or convening that brings together people in a single room or single space at the same time . . . This applies to all non-essential professional, social and community gatherings regardless of their sponsor . . ."</p> <p>City of Los Angeles Mayor Eric Garcetti issues new orders to help protect the public and slow the spread of coronavirus which required the postponement or cancellation of all non-essential public community events or group activities with 50 or more participants, or that requires close contact between vulnerable individuals.</p>
March 13, 2020	<p>President Donald J. Trump declares a national emergency over the COVID-19 outbreak.</p> <p>Presiding Judge Kevin C. Brazile announces in a News Release changes to court operations to begin on March 16 and makes requests to Chief Justice Tani G. Cantil-Sakauye for an emergency order as authorized in Senate Bill 1208</p>
March 15, 2020	<p>Presiding Judge Kevin C. Brazile Court responds in a News Release to the executive action by City of Los Angeles Mayor Eric Garcetti regarding changes in the City of Los Angeles and scales down operations to achieve social distancing.</p>
March 16, 2020	<p>Chief Justice Tani G. Cantil-Sakauye issues an emergency order based on the request made by Presiding Judge Kevin C. Brazile authorizing a number of actions for the Court and declaring March 17 – 19, 2020, a holiday for purposes of computing time. Chief Justice Emergency Order</p>
March 17, 2020	<p>Presiding Judge Brazile issues General Order 004 (2020-GEN-004-00) of emergency powers obtained from the Chief. The order closes all courthouses to the public from March 17 -19, 2020, a 3-day closure, a holiday for purposes of computing time.</p>

Date	Action Taken by the Court
March 18, 2020	<p>Presiding Judge Brazile announces in a News Release that all Traffic and Non-Traffic Infraction trials and traffic arraignments are suspended for at least 30 days.</p>
March 19, 2020	<p>Governor of California Gavin Newsom issues Executive Order N-33-20, requiring all Californians to stay home, exempts essential workers and identifies Courts as essential.</p> <p>Presiding Judge Brazile issues General Order 005 (2020-GEN-005-00) to amend order General Order 004. This order provides that the Court be open beginning March 20, at 8:30 AM after the 3-day closure, to only hear time sensitive and essential services in all courthouses except Beverly Hills and Catalina. This order also continues all unlawful detainer trials.</p>
March 20, 2020	<p>The Court issues a News Release notifying the public that the Clerk's Offices would be closed to the public effective Monday, March 23, 2020 and services to be transitioned to telephonic and remote solutions.</p> <p>The Court reopens with only around 30% of its courtrooms used for essential services.</p>
March 23, 2020	<p>Presiding Judge Brazile issues General Order 006 (2020-GEN-006-00). This new General Order restricts courthouse access to authorized parties only through June 22, 2020. This Order also delays Criminal and Civil cases while prioritizing Bail Review Hearings for the next 60 days.</p> <p>Chief Justice Tani Cantil-Sakauye issues a Statewide Order and notes that courts cannot continue to operate as they have in the past and comply with the increasingly stringent social distancing measures of at least six feet between people that the CDC, the CDPH, and local county health departments have recommended. Chief Justice Cantil-Sakauye further notes that court proceedings require gatherings of court staff, litigants, attorneys, witnesses, and juries, well in excess of the numbers allowed for gathering under current executive and health orders and that court facilities in California are ill-equipped to effectively allow the social distancing and other public health requirements required to protect people involved in court proceedings and prevent the further spread of COVID-19. Statewide Order by Hon. Tani G. Cantil-Sakauye</p>
March 24, 2020	<p>Presiding Judge Brazile issues a News Release announcing an expedited court process to release an agreed-upon list of pretrial inmates being held in jail before trial. Based upon the Justice Partners' best effort to balance the public health needs of the jail population and the public safety needs of the community, they have created a stipulated list of persons to be released by the Court.</p>