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Superior Court of California, County of Los Angeles

# NEWS RELEASE

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

April 22, 2021

## **PRESIDING JUDGE ERIC C. TAYLOR EXTENDS CERTAIN CASE DEADLINES TO ACCOMMODATE HEALTH PROTOCOLS AND MANDATES AS JURY TRIALS INCREASE**

Presiding Judge Eric C. Taylor today received emergency authority from Chief Justice Tani G. Cantil-Sakauye 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 continuing safe expansion of Civil and Criminal jury trials throughout the county.

"Despite the dramatic decrease in the number of COVID-19 cases in Los Angeles County since the winter surge, the Court continues to rely on this emergency authority to safely increase the number of jury trials while limiting the number of people in our courthouses," Presiding Judge Taylor said. "The Court cannot operate at pre-pandemic levels while the COVID-19 virus remains a concern in our community and social distancing and mask mandates are necessary. Together, we are making progress in Los Angeles County to safely and carefully ramp up Criminal and Civil jury trials. I am grateful to Chief Justice Cantil-Sakauye and our justice and community partners for helping the Court to achieve a deliberate, safe resumption of jury trials while more Angelenos become fully vaccinated and the COVID-19 positivity rate continues to decline locally."

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.
- 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 **April 24, 2021 to May 21, 2021**, inclusive.

**-MORE-**

## GENERAL ORDER

### 2-2-2-2

- Extends by 90 calendar days post-conviction progress reports set on **April 24, 2021 to May 21, 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 **April 24, 2021 to May 21, 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 **April 24, 2021 to May 21, 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 **April 24, 2021 to May 21, 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](http://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 No. 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* 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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 Superior Court of California  
 County of Los Angeles

APR 22 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**

The number of COVID-19 cases in Los Angeles County has decreased dramatically and more than 60% of County residents have received at least one dose of the COVID-19 vaccine. However, the Superior Court of Los Angeles County (LASC or Court) cannot operate at pre-pandemic levels while social distancing and mask mandates remain in effect. Accordingly, it must continue to limit the number of persons who enter its courthouses and enforce other social distancing measures.

**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](http://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 No. 2021-GEN-009-02](#), all persons are  
3           required to wear face coverings over their nose and mouth while in a courthouse. Persons  
4           whose disabilities preclude them from wearing face coverings compliant with the  
5           California Department of Public Health [Guidance Concerning the Use of Face Coverings](#)  
6           issued 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 **April 24, 2021, to May 21, 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 **April 24, 2021, to May 21, 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](#)  
24           [Order No. 2020-GEN-007-00](#) issued on April 2, 2020, and until further notice, the  
25           Court extends the time provided by section 859b of the Penal Code for the  
26           holding of a preliminary examination and the defendant's right to release from 10  
27           court days to 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 **April 24, 2021, to May 21, 2021**, inclusive.
- iii. The Court extends by 90 calendar days post-conviction progress reports set on **April 24, 2021, to May 21, 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 **April 24, 2021, to May 21, 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: April 22, 2021



*Eric C. Taylor*  
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 ERIC C. TAYLOR  
 Presiding Judge