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Superior Court of California, County of Los Angeles

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

May 20, 2021

PRESIDING JUDGE ERIC C. TAYLOR: LAST DAY DEADLINES FOR CRIMINAL TRIALS AND JUVENILE DEPENDENCY MATTERS EXTENDED AS COURT MAINTAINS CAUTION AMID DECREASE IN COVID CASES

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 and Juvenile Dependency matters. The extensions are a necessary tool to help the Court expand Civil and Criminal jury trials while maintaining effective Department of Public Health-approved safety measures in all courthouses.

"Even as COVID-19 case rates and hospitalizations continue to fall in Los Angeles County, the need to maintain social distancing in courthouses remains paramount to ensure the safety of the public, jurors, judicial officers, court staff, and our justice partners," Presiding Judge Taylor said. "I am grateful to Chief Justice Cantil-Sakauye for recognizing this need in granting this Order. I also am grateful to our justice partners and the public for complying with my face mask mandate and all COVID-19 safety protocols as the Court safely and deliberately expands Civil and Criminal jury trials."

Social distancing, face masks and all existing COVID-19 safety protocols will remain in effect in all courthouses until further notice, in accordance with Amended General Order [2021-GEN-009-02](#). Despite the Center for Disease Control and Prevention's recent announcement that people who are fully vaccinated can resume activities without wearing a mask or socially distancing, the Court continues to follow County and State health guidance. At this time, County and State public health officials have not amended their workplace safety guidelines for the courts.

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 **May 22, 2021, to June 18, 2021**, inclusive.
- Extends by 90 calendar days post-conviction progress reports set on **May 22, 2021, to June 18, 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 **May 22, 2021, to June 18, 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 **May 22, 2021, to June 18, 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 **May 22, 2021, to June 18, 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 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.

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FILED
 Superior Court of California
 County of Los Angeles

MAY 20 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

As COVID-19 cases in Los Angeles County continue to decrease and more County residents are vaccinated, public health authorities begin to relax COVID-19 protocols. However, the Superior Court of Los Angeles County (LASC or Court) cannot operate at pre-pandemic levels while physical distancing and mask mandates remain in effect. Accordingly, it must continue to limit the number of persons who enter its courthouses and enforce other physical 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.
- 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 **May 22, 2021, to June 18, 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 **May 22, 2021, to June 18, 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 **May 22, 2021, to June 18, 2021**, inclusive.
- iii. The Court extends by 90 calendar days post-conviction progress reports set on **May 22, 2021, to June 18, 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 **May 22, 2021, to June 18, 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: May 20, 2021



Eric C. Taylor
 ERIC C. TAYLOR
 Presiding Judge