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Superior Court of California, County of Los Angeles

# NEWS RELEASE

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## FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

June 18, 2021

# **PRESIDING JUDGE ERIC C. TAYLOR: FACE MASKS, SOCIAL DISTANCING REMAIN MANDATORY IN ALL LA COUNTY COURTHOUSES AS NEW ORDER EXTENDS LAST DAY DEADLINES FOR CRIMINAL AND JUVENILE DEPENDENCY MATTERS**

Presiding Judge Eric C. Taylor late yesterday received emergency authority from Chief Justice Tani G. Cantil-Sakauye to issue a new General Order extending last-day deadlines for Criminal and Juvenile Dependency matters to assist the Court in its ongoing post-pandemic expansion of jury trials in the nation's largest trial court. The new Order will allow the Court to responsibly transition to operate safely at pre-pandemic levels.

"This week has brought welcome news for Californians as Governor Gavin Newsom has fully re-opened the state's economy, relaxed masking requirements and eliminated social distancing," Presiding Judge Taylor said. "While the state and county public health guidelines for managing COVID-19 have been lifted and vaccinations increase in California, the Court is eagerly planning to align its operations with recent revisions to state and Cal/OSHA workplace guidance. We are reviewing these new regulations to soon enhance in-person access to our courthouses and services while continuing to offer new convenient customer service and remote courtroom appearance solutions implemented during the pandemic."

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 **June 19, 2021, to July 16, 2021**, inclusive.

- Extends by 90 calendar days post-conviction progress reports set on **June 19, 2021, to July 16, 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 **June 19, 2021, to July 16, 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 **June 19, 2021, to July 16, 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 **June 19, 2021, to July 16, 2021**, inclusive.

The Court also orders:

#### **Courthouse Access Remote Appearances:**

Access to courthouses is governed by [General Order 2020-GEN-025-00](#) issued on November 23, 2020 and remains in effect.

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).

#### **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 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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**Superior Court of California**  
**County of Los Angeles**

JUN 17 2021

Sherrri 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**

Public health authorities recently lifted COVID-19 restrictions in response to the decreased number of coronavirus cases and the increasing number of residents who are vaccinated. Today, the Occupational Health and Safety Standards Board voted to approve its Proposed Revisions to the COVID-19 Prevention Emergency Temporary Standards that, among other things, effectively remove social distancing mandates in indoor workspaces and allows employers to permit fully vaccinated employees not to wear masks.

While the Superior Court of Los Angeles County (LASC or Court) determines how to operate safely at pre-pandemic levels, it will 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](http://www.lacourt.org).

- 1           b. Access to LASC proceedings is governed by [General Order No. 2020-GEN-025-00](#)  
2           issued on November 23, 2020.

3           **2. Face Coverings and Social Distancing:**

- 4           a. In accordance with [Amended General Order No. 2021-GEN-009-02](#) and consistent  
5           with the California Department of Public Health [Guidance Concerning the Use of](#)  
6           [Face Coverings](#) issued on June 15, 2021 (Guidance), all persons – regardless of  
7           vaccination status – are required to wear face coverings over their nose and mouth  
8           while in a courthouse. Persons whose disabilities preclude them from wearing face  
9           coverings compliant with the Guidance, are urged to seek an accommodation under  
10          [Rule 1.100](#) of the California Rules of Court in advance of their court appearance or  
11          appointment.  
12          b. The Court will continue to enforce social distancing in its courthouses while it  
13          evaluates its social distancing protocols. The Court anticipates aligning its protocols  
14          to the [Emergency Temporary Standards to Protect Workers from COVID-19](#) adopted  
15          by the Occupational Safety and Health Standards Board (OSHSB) on June 17, 2021,  
16          shortly. It will revise its General Orders as appropriate to reflect any changes.

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

18          a. Juvenile Dependency

- 19           i. The Court extends the time periods provided in section 313 of the Welfare and  
20           Institutions Code within which a minor taken into custody pending dependency  
21           proceedings must be released from custody to not more than seven (7) days,  
22           applicable only to minors for whom the statutory deadline would otherwise expire  
23           from **June 19, 2021, to July 16, 2021**, inclusive.  
24           ii. The Court extends the time periods provided in section 315 of the Welfare and  
25           Institutions Code within which a minor taken into custody pending dependency  
26           proceedings must be given a detention hearing to not more than seven (7) days,  
27           applicable only to minors for whom the statutory deadline would otherwise expire  
28           from **June 19, 2021, to July 16, 2021**, inclusive.

1           b. Criminal

- 2           i. Pursuant to the authority granted by the [March 30, 2020 Statewide Emergency](#)  
 3           Order issued by the Honorable Tani G. Cantil-Sakauye, Chief Justice of California  
 4           and Chair of the Judicial Council which the Court implemented in its [General](#)  
 5           Order No. 2020-GEN-007-00 issued on April 2, 2020, and until further notice, the  
 6           Court extends the time provided by section 859b of the Penal Code for the  
 7           holding of a preliminary examination and the defendant's right to release from 10  
 8           court days to not more than 30 court days.
- 9           ii. The Court extends the time period provided in section 1382 of the Penal Code for  
 10          the holding of a criminal trial by not more than 30 days, applicable only to cases  
 11          in which the original or previously extended statutory deadline otherwise would  
 12          expire from **June 19, 2021, to July 16, 2021**, inclusive.
- 13          iii. The Court extends by 90 calendar days post-conviction progress reports set on  
 14          **June 19, 2021, to July 16, 2021**, inclusive.
- 15          iv. The Court extends by 90 calendar days, unless statutorily required to be held sooner  
 16          and the defendant does not consent to a continuance, out-of-custody misdemeanor  
 17          pretrial hearings set on **June 19, 2021, to July 16, 2021**, inclusive.

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

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26 DATED: June 17, 2021



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