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# NEWS RELEASE

Superior Court of California, County of Los Angeles  
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## Media Relations

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**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:  
July 19, 2021**

## **PRESIDING JUDGE ERIC C. TAYLOR ANNOUNCES NEW GENERAL ORDER TO EXTEND DEADLINES FOR CRIMINAL BY TWO WEEKS, AND CONTINUING JUVENILE DEPENDENCY CASES AMID NOTABLE INCREASE IN REPORTED COVID-19 CASES IN LOS ANGELES COUNTY**

Presiding Judge Eric C. Taylor today announced a 2-week extension of deadlines for certain Criminal cases and a 4-week extension for Juvenile Dependency proceedings, marking a measured shift in court operations to help the Court and its users recover from caseloads impacted by the COVID-19 pandemic. On Thursday, Chief Justice Tani Cantil-Sakauye granted the Superior Court of Los Angeles County's application for relief which sought authority to extend Criminal deadlines by four (4) weeks with a plan to open trial courts more fully while retaining the flexibility to address the logjam of pending trials now before a limited number of trial courtrooms.

Presiding Judge Taylor has elected to issue an initial order within this framework extending Criminal deadlines by two (2) weeks to provide notice to judicial officers, justice partners and the parties, and providing them an opportunity to plan and prepare for the work ahead. Meanwhile, the Court will monitor courtroom capacity limits against trial demands, while carefully watching local COVID trends and Los Angeles County Department of Public Health (LA DPH) advisories and orders.

**-MORE-**

## **GENERAL ORDER**

### **2-2-2-2**

“The Court will continue to take a measured, responsible approach to returning court operations to more normalized levels,” Presiding Judge Taylor said. “Although we are advancing to try cases at a much more regular pace, we are monitoring a COVID bottleneck of backlogged Criminal and Civil trials building over the last 16 months that our Court will control as we work diligently to address each matter. We will work with our justice partners to provide fair and efficient access to justice for these delayed matters, with health and safety remaining our highest priority.”

Presiding Judge Taylor encouraged all court users to comply with public health mandates as Los Angeles County experiences a noticeable increase in reported COVID-19 cases that prompted the LA DPH to issue more restrictive indoor mask policies for all persons, regardless of vaccination status.

“The Court continues to prioritize safe access to justice while adapting to the constant pandemic-related changes in LA County,” Presiding Judge Taylor said. “The Court’s mandatory face mask order has remained in effect since last year and now aligns with the most recent LA DPH guidance that requires the public to wear face masks indoors.”

#### **Face Coverings:**

In accordance with [Amended General Order 2021-GEN-023-00](#), all persons – regardless of vaccination status – 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 guidance are urged to seek an accommodation under [Rule 1.100](#) of the California Rules of Court in advance of their court appearance or appointment. A list of ADA liaisons is available at <http://www.lacourt.org/ada/adahome.aspx>.

#### **Clerk’s Office and Self-Help Center Appointments:**

In the interest of safeguarding the well-being of court users, persons seeking services from the Clerk’s Office, court support services, and/or the Self-Help Centers are encouraged to schedule appointments. For telephone or video assistance, or [to schedule an appointment](#),

**-MORE-**

**GENERAL ORDER  
3-3-3-3**

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).

The Order, which is attached, extends:

**Criminal:**

- (i) 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, until **July 30, 2021**.
- (ii) 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 **July 17, 2021, to July 30, 2021, inclusive**.
- (iii) By 90 calendar days post-conviction progress reports set on **July 17, 2021, to July 30, 2021, inclusive**.
- (iv) 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 **July 17, 2021, to July 30, 2021, inclusive**.

**Juvenile Dependency:**

- (i) 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 **July 17, 2021, to August 13, 2021, inclusive**; and
- (ii) 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 **July 17, 2021, to August 13, 2021, inclusive**.

For more information, follow the Court on Twitter ([@LASuperiorCourt](https://twitter.com/LASuperiorCourt)) and the Court's website ([LACourt.org](http://LACourt.org)).

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

JUL 19 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

**AMENDED GENERAL ORDER**

Effective June 28, 2021, the Superior Court of Los Angeles County (Court) lifted its social distancing mandate but retained its mask mandate. In the intervening time, Los Angeles County has experienced a dramatic increase in reported COVID-19 cases that prompted the Los Angeles County Department of Public Health to issue more restrictive indoor mask policies for all persons, regardless of vaccination status. As the Court seeks to balance its obligation to maintain access to justice with its commitment to safeguard the well-being of court users, it is imperative that all court users monitor and comply with public health mandates.

**THE COURT HEREBY FINDS, AND ORDERS AS FOLLOWS:**

**1. Clerk's Office and Self-Help Center Appointments:**

In the interest of safeguarding the well-being of court users, persons seeking services from the Clerk's Office, court support services, and/or the Self-Help Centers are encouraged to schedule appointments. 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).

**2. Face Coverings:**

In accordance with [General Order 2021-GEN-023-00](#), all persons – regardless of vaccination status – are required to wear face coverings over their nose and mouth while

1 in a courthouse. Persons whose disabilities preclude them from wearing face coverings  
2 compliant with the Guidance, are urged to seek an accommodation under [Rule 1.100](#) of  
3 the California Rules of Court in advance of their court appearance or appointment.

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

5 a. Juvenile Dependency

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

16 b. Criminal

- 17 i. Pursuant to the authority granted by the [March 30, 2020 Statewide](#)  
18 [Emergency Order](#) issued by the Honorable Tani G. Cantil-Sakauye, Chief  
19 Justice of California and Chair of the Judicial Council which the Court  
20 implemented in its [General Order No. 2020-GEN-007-00](#) issued on April 2,  
21 2020, and until July 30, 2021, the Court extends the time provided by section  
22 859b of the Penal Code for the holding of a preliminary examination and the  
23 defendant's right to release from 10 court days to not more than 30 court  
24 days.
- 25 ii. The Court extends the time period provided in section 1382 of the Penal Code for  
26 the holding of a criminal trial by not more than 30 days, applicable only to cases  
27 in which the original or previously extended statutory deadline otherwise would  
28 expire from **July 17, 2021, to July 30, 2021**, inclusive.

1           iii. The Court extends by 90 calendar days post-conviction progress reports set on  
2           **July 17, 2021, to July 30, 2021**, inclusive.

3           iv. The Court extends by 90 calendar days, unless statutorily required to be held sooner  
4           and the defendant does not consent to a continuance, out-of-custody misdemeanor  
5           pretrial hearings set on **July 17, 2021, to July 30, 2021**, inclusive.  
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7           **THIS ORDER IS EFFECTIVE IMMEDIATELY AND WILL REMAIN IN EFFECT**  
8           **UNTIL FURTHER NOTICE, OR UNTIL ITS PROVISIONS EXPIRE BY THEIR TERMS,**  
9           **ARE RESCINDED, AMENDED, OR ARE SUPERSEDED BY SUBSEQUENT ORDERS.**

10           **THIS ORDER MAY BE AMENDED AS CIRCUMSTANCES REQUIRE.**

11           **GOOD CAUSE APPEARING THEREFOR, IT IS SO ORDERED.**  
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13  
14 DATED: July 19, 2021



15           *Eric C. Taylor*  
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17           ERIC C. TAYLOR  
18           Presiding Judge  
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