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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:
January 7, 2022

PRESIDING JUDGE ERIC C. TAYLOR ISSUES AMENDED ORDER TO DELAY PRELIMINARY HEARINGS, CERTAIN CRIMINAL CASE DEADLINES AMID ONGOING SURGE OF COVID-19 CASES IN LA COUNTY

Presiding Judge Eric C. Taylor today utilized the authority granted by Chief Justice Tani G. Cantil-Sakauye under Government Code section 68115 to issue an amended General Order to extend statutory deadlines for preliminary hearings as a result of the continued and unprecedented rise in COVID's community transmission throughout Los Angeles County. The amended Order, which is attached, maintains the extensions announced earlier this week for post-conviction progress reports, out-of-custody Misdemeanor pretrial hearings and the extended statutory deadlines for pending Criminal jury trials in which the original or previously extended statutory deadline otherwise would expire from January 5 to January 19, 2022, inclusive. The amended General Order does not affect ongoing Criminal trials, sentencings, motion hearings or arraignments.

"I want to thank Chief Justice Cantil-Sakauye for continuing to provide the Court the tools necessary to address emerging issues related to the rapid spread of the Omicron and Delta variants in LA County," Presiding Judge Taylor said. "Public health is our chief priority as we continue efforts to balance an obligation to maintain access to justice with a commitment to safeguard the well-being of court users. By amending my General Order to extend the deadlines for preliminary hearings, we are further reducing foot traffic in our courthouses. In conjunction with the LA County Department of Public Health (LADPH), we continue to closely monitor the ongoing surge and any changes in health officer orders and guidance and will continue to make adjustments if necessary."

LADPH today reported more than 43,000 positive cases, setting a new daily record in LA County.

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**AMENDED GENERAL ORDER
2-2-2-2**

The amended Order extends deadlines as follows:

CRIMINAL

- (i) 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, from **January 7, 2022 to January 19, 2022**, inclusive.
- (ii) 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 **January 5, 2022 to January 19, 2022**, inclusive.
- (iii) Extends by 90 calendar days post-conviction progress reports set on **January 5, 2022 to January 19, 2022**, inclusive.
- (iv) 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 **January 5, 2022 to January 19, 2022**, inclusive.

The extensions for certain Juvenile Dependency matters issued in General Order [2021-GEN-037-00](#) remain in place until January 28, 2022.

The Order also states that 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 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>.

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.

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FILED
Superior Court of California
County of Los Angeles

JAN 07 2022

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

As the number of confirmed COVID-19 cases in Los Angeles shatters previous levels, many entities struggle as employees and others are quarantined after exposure to COVID-19. The Court amends its General Order to continue statutory deadlines for preliminary hearings as a result of the high proportion of inmates from the Los Angeles County jail who cannot be transported to their court hearings because they are quarantined. In its continuing efforts to balance its obligation to maintain access to justice with its commitment to safeguard the well-being of court users in the midst of the COVID-19 pandemic, the **SUPERIOR COURT OF LOS ANGELES COUNTY 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.

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. Criminal Division

- 6 i. Pursuant to the authority granted by the [March 30, 2020 Statewide Emergency](#)
7 [Order](#) issued by the Honorable Tani G. Cantil-Sakauye, Chief Justice of California
8 and Chair of the Judicial Council, which the Court implemented in its [General](#)
9 [Order No. 2020-GEN-007-00](#) issued on April 2, 2020, and **until January 19,**
10 **2022**, the Court extends the time provided by section 859b of the Penal Code for
11 the holding of a preliminary examination and the defendant's right to release from
12 10 court days to not more than 30 court days.
- 13 ii. The Court extends the time period provided in section 1382 of the Penal Code for
14 the holding of a criminal trial by not more than 30 days, applicable only to cases
15 in which the original or previously extended statutory deadline otherwise would
16 expire from **January 5, 2022 to January 19, 2022**, inclusive.
- 17 iii. The Court extends by 90 calendar days post-conviction progress reports set on
18 **January 5, 2022 to January 19, 2022**, inclusive.
- 19 iv. The Court extends by 90 calendar days, unless statutorily required to be held sooner
20 and the defendant does not consent to a continuance, out-of-custody misdemeanor
21 pretrial hearings set on **January 5, 2022 to January 19, 2022**, inclusive.

22 b. Juvenile Dependency

- 23 i. The Court extends the time periods provided in section 313 of the Welfare and
24 Institutions Code within which a minor taken into custody pending dependency
25 proceedings must be released from custody to not more than seven (7) days,
26 applicable only to minors for whom the statutory deadline would otherwise expire
27 from **January 1, 2022 to January 28, 2022**, inclusive.

ii. The Court 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 **January 1, 2022 to January 28, 2022**, 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: January 7, 2022



Eric C. Taylor
ERIC C. TAYLOR
Presiding Judge