

COVID-19 CA LOCAL COURT ORDERS RE CLOSURE

During this unprecedented period of COVID-19, we strive to provide our clients with the most accurate and up to date information regarding the status of court operations. To that end, below is a chart with the local court orders pertaining to civil matters in the majority of California jurisdictions where we have ongoing litigation. The information below should be read in conjunction with the [March 23, 2020](#) and [March 30, 2020](#) Statewide Orders of the Chief Justice, which suspend and continue all jury trials or a period of sixty (60) days from the date for which the trial was set, or from the date on which the statutory deadline to try the case expires, whichever is longer.

CALIFORNIA STATE COURTS			
Court	Closure Information	Link	Updated
Alameda County Superior Court	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> All courthouses in Alameda County remain closed to the public for general business. The days March 17, 2020, through April 3, 2020, will be considered court holidays per Code of Civil Procedure sections 12 and 12a. Documents will not be received for filing during this time period; the Court's Fax Filing service will be temporarily suspended. The Court will continue to assess the need to seek an extension of the public closure Period as necessary. All civil jury trials are continued in accord with the March 23, 2020 Statewide Order of the Chief Justice, for a period of 60 days. Because March 17, 2020, through April 7, 2020, have been deemed holidays for purposes of Code of Civil Procedure sections 12 and 12a, the Court will not accept any Civil filings 	Click Here for More Information	3/27/2020

	during that period, nor will any civil matters or hearings be conducted. Matters will be reset and notices will be mailed by the Court.		
Contra Costa County Superior Court	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The Contra Costa County Superior Court will be closed at all locations beginning Monday, March 16, 2020 through April 30, 2020. The Court will not schedule hearings or reset hearings that were scheduled during the closure period until the Court reopens, with the exception of urgent matters. At least until April 1, 2020, the court closure will have the effect of being a public holiday. 	Click Here for More Information	3/27/2020
Fresno County Superior Court	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Civil matters will not be heard from March 23, 2020 until April 3, 2020. March 23, 2020 until April 3, 2020, inclusive, is declared a Court holiday for purposes of calculating time for filing papers. Civil Law and Motion matters will be continued for four weeks on a rolling basis. All Civil Unlimited Mandatory Settlement Conferences, Trial Readiness Hearings and Trials (jury and court) scheduled to occur from Monday, March 23, 2020 through Tuesday, May 26, 2020, inclusive, will be rescheduled. 	Click Here for More Information	3/25/2020
Kern County Superior Court	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> All jury trials are suspended and continued for a period of 60 days. Courts may conduct such a trial at an earlier date, upon finding of good cause shown or through the use of remote technology, when appropriate. 	Click Here for More Information	3/24/2020

	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Beginning March 19 through April 10, the only civil case types that will be heard are harassment and ex parte requests. All other hearings will be rescheduled. The court will send notice to attorneys or parties who represent themselves.• All civil cases set for hearings in Departments 10, 11, 12 and 17, and in the Multi-Divisional Courts between the dates of April 1, 2020 and May 22, 2020, have been rescheduled to a later date.• Access to any and all courthouses is restricted to those persons required to appear in person for a court hearing.		
Los Angeles County Superior Court	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Access to any and all Los Angeles County Courthouses shall be restricted at all times to judges, commissioners, court staff and authorized persons until June 22, 2020.• Suspension of any and all criminal or civil jury or non-jury trials until further notice. (Order is in effect until June 22, 2020).• Access to any and all court proceedings, including but not limited to arraignments, preliminary hearings, motions, ex partes or trials, shall be limited to parties, attorneys, witnesses or authorized persons until further notice.• The full and complete public closure of the Beverly Hills, Catalina and Spring Street Courthouses, until further notice.	Click Here for More Information	3/23/2020

<p>Monterey County Superior Court</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Monterey Court is closed from March 18, 2020 through April 3, 2020. In an effort to protect the public and court staff, no court hearings will be held in Monterey during the closure period. Most hearings will be set out between 30 and 60 days from your current date. You should receive notice of your new date in the mail. • Filings will continue to be accepted electronically via efile. • If all parties agree in writing, you may request that the Court rule on your filed noticed motion without a hearing on the Civil Law & Motion Calendars: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Monday Department 13 at 9:05am; - Tuesday Department 13 (Complex) at 8:30am; - Thursday Department 13 (Ex Parte) at 10:00am; and - Friday Departments 14 & 15 at 9:00am. <p>Note: All interested parties will need to waive the hearing in writing. Click here for the Emergency Agreement to Waive Hearing Form.</p> 	<p>Click Here for More Information</p>	<p>3/26/2020</p>
<p>Napa County Superior Court</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Closed to the public for anything other than time sensitive or emergency matters from Wednesday, March 18, through Friday April 10, 2020. • All civil jury and bench trials, trial management conferences and/or mandatory settlement conferences currently set between Wednesday, March 18, 2020 and Friday, April 10, 2020 will be vacated. These cases will be continued to a trial setting conference eight weeks from the currently set Trial Management Conference. Notice of the Trial Setting Conference will be provided by mail. 	<p>Click Here for More Information</p>	<p>3/18/2020</p>

- Parties are strongly encouraged to meet and confer to agree upon a new trial date (and dates for trial management and/or mandatory settlement, as appropriate) and to submit a written stipulation and proposed order for the same. Any such proposed order should include language to vacate the trial setting conference. If the court is unable to accommodate the agreed-upon trial date, it will decline to sign the proposed order and keep the trial-setting conference on calendar.
- All law and motion matters (including 8:30 probate matters, name change petitions and Case Management Conferences) scheduled between Wednesday, March 18, 2020 and Friday, April 10, 2020, will be continued to a new date eight weeks from the currently set hearing date. Notice of the new hearing date will be provided by mail. If parties believe a continuance of a law and motion matter results in the need to continue trial, they are strongly encouraged to meet and confer to agree upon a new trial date (and dates for trial management and/or mandatory settlement, as appropriate) and to submit a written stipulation and proposed order for the same and proposed order for the same when filings are again accepted.
- The Court will not accept civil ex parte applications or civil filings until April 13, 2020. The Court has declared March 18, 2020 through April 10, 2020 a court holiday for purposes of computing the time for filing papers with the court under Code of Civil Procedure sections 12 and 12a. (Gov. Code, § 68115(a)(4).)

Orange County Superior Court	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• The Orange County Superior Court will remain closed to the public until April 24, 2020, with minimal exceptions for time sensitive matters or matters pertaining to the safety and security of the community.• For purposes of computing certain court-related deadlines, the closure will be considered a public holiday.• The Court is available only for the following Civil matters:<ul style="list-style-type: none">- Civil Temporary Restraining Orders- Emergency Gun Violence Restraining Orders (GVRO)- Emergency Ex-parte Lock-out Matters (UD)- Emergency Civil Temporary Injunctions (CRC 3.1150)• The Court has suspended all civil trials, hearings, and proceedings for at least 60 days, with the exception of time-sensitive matters, such as restraining orders and urgent dependency, probate, and family matters. All other Civil hearing dates on any civil case set during the next 60 days (including court and jury trials in progress or calendared to begin during this timeframe) are deemed vacated and will be reset for a date beyond 60 days. Notice will be provided to all parties. Although hearings may continue to display as calendared in electronic online case access, no hearings will be conducted during this period. Judges are to consider whether an emergency order may be needed to address cases reaching 5-year deadlines under Code of Civil Procedure section 583.310.	Click Here for More Information	3/27/2020
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Riverside County Superior Court	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• The Riverside Superior Court announces temporary court closures throughout the county effective March 20 through April 3. During this time frame, only limited emergency matters will be handled. In addition, those courts that remain open will have reduced public service hours from 9:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m.• The Court will continue to accept ex parte civil harassments, other types of temporary civil restraining orders, and ex-parte applications.• Unlimited and limited civil trials are suspended until after May 25, 2020. Civil trials that are in-progress will be evaluated on a case-by-case basis. All other civil matters will be continued. ADR and Mediation Services will be suspended.• For purposes of computing time for filing papers with the Court under Code of Civil Procedure sections 12 and 12a, the time period from March 17, 2020 to April 3, 2020, inclusive are deemed holidays (Gov. Code, § 68115(a)(4)).	Click Here for More Information	3/23/2020
Sacramento County Superior Court	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• The Court has declared the period of March 20, 2020 to April 16, 2020, inclusive, to be court holidays for all purposes, except for certain limited and expressly enumerated emergency matters which may be addressed during such time frame. All courthouses and courtrooms shall be closed for judicial business during the days declared to be holidays except for Department 47 in the Gordon D. Schaber Courthouse.• When the court returns to a partial closure, the court will set new dates for all affected cases, taking into consideration the order and any statutory priorities for the affected cases.	Click Here for More Information	3/30/2020

	<ul style="list-style-type: none">All criminal and civil matters not expressly excepted are suspended until further order of the Court.		
San Bernardino County Superior Court	<ul style="list-style-type: none">The San Bernardino County Superior Court announces temporary court closures throughout the County effective March 17 through April 2.Effective March 17 through April 2, all Civil and Criminal Jury Trials will be rescheduled.DO NOT APPEAR unless you have an emergency matter scheduled for hearing. The Clerk's Office will provide notice to attorneys and parties regarding the continuance of each matter when the Court reopens.For the purposes of computing time for court related deadlines, the closure will be considered a court holiday.	Click Here for More Information	3/18/2020
San Diego County Superior Court	<ul style="list-style-type: none">All jury trials in the County of San Diego are suspended and continued for a period of sixty (60) days.The San Diego Superior Court has suspended all non-emergency services effective March 17, 2020 - April 3, 2020.All court days from March 17, 2020 to April 3, 2020, inclusive, will be deemed a court holiday for purposes of computing the time for filing papers with the court pursuant to Code of Civil Procedure sections 12 and 12a.	Click Here for More Information	3/25/2020

	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• The Court has continued all non-emergency matters. The parties shall receive further notice stating the specific time and date of the continuances in their cases.		
San Francisco County Superior Court	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• The trial dates for all cases on the civil trial calendar with trial dates from Monday, March 23, 2020, through Friday, May 22, 2020 (“applicable cases”) are hereby vacated. The court will set a new trial date for each case which will be 60 days from the vacated trial date (new trial date).• For all applicable cases, except where the dates to conduct discovery have passed, the last dates to conduct discovery and expert discovery and to file motions for summary judgment and summary adjudication are hereby vacated. Effective immediately, the last date to conduct discovery and expert discovery and to file motions for summary judgment and summary adjudication for every applicable case is based on the new trial date.• All parties and counsel in the applicable cases are hereby relieved of the pre-trial filing requirements set forth in San Francisco Local Rules of Court, Local Rule 6 and Code of Civil Procedure sections and California Rules of Court rules referenced in Local Rule 6.• The dates for mandatory settlement conferences in all applicable cases are hereby vacated. When the court resumes normal operations, the court will set new mandatory settlement conferences dates for all applicable cases.• The hearing dates for all law and motion and discovery matters currently calendared in departments 301 and 302 are hereby vacated. When the court resumes normal operations, the Presiding Judge will announce procedures for setting hearing dates for those cases	Click Here for More Information	3/24/2020

which have been fully briefed. For cases in which motions have been filed, but are not yet fully briefed, the new hearing date will establish the briefing schedule.

- Parties with emergencies which require court orders may submit ex parte applications in compliance with CRC 3.1200-3.1207 and attach them to an email to the opposing party/counsel addressed to contestdept302tr@sftc.org with the subject line, "Ex Parte Application for Emergency Relief." The court will review the applications and where appropriate notify the parties to appear for a telephonic hearing. Parties and counsel should efile the applications and any opposition papers with the court.
- The hearing dates for all law and motion matters currently calendared in the complex litigation departments 304 and 613 are hereby vacated. When the court resumes normal operations, the Complex Department Judge will announce procedures for setting hearing dates for those cases which have been fully briefed. For cases in which motions have been filed, but are not yet fully briefed, the new hearing date will establish the briefing schedule.
- From March 18, 2020 to April 15, 2020, inclusive are deemed a holiday for purposes of computing time for filing papers with the Court under Code of Civil Procedure sections 12 and 12a (Gov. Code section 68115(a)(4)) for all the following:
 1. The period of time to move to quash, file a demurrer, move to strike including a special motion to strike pursuant to Code of Civil Procedure sections 425.16 et seq., answer, or otherwise respond to a complaint or cross complaint as set forth in (but

	<p>not limited to) Code of Civil Procedure sections 430.10 et seq. and Chapter 4, sections 435 et seq.;</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none">2. The time in which to respond to discovery including file objections to discovery, or file motions for protective orders or to compel discovery pursuant to Code of Civil Procedure sections 2016.010 et seq.;3. The time to file, hear and rule on any post-trial motions including but not limited to a notice motion of intention to move for a new trial, and the time to file, to hear and to decide a motion for a new trial, pursuant to Code of Civil Procedure sections 659 et seq.;4. The time for the court to issue a judgment notwithstanding the verdict pursuant to Code of Civil Procedure sections 629 et seq., a cost bill, a motion to tax a cost bill or a motion for attorney fees;5. The time for filing papers with the court regarding: (a) petitions for dissolution of marriage, legal separation or nullity; (b) petitions to establish parental relationship; (c) a summons and complaint filed by the Department of Child Support Services; (d) Requests for Order, except ex parte requests and requests for Domestic Violence Restraining Orders; and (e) other matters as determined by the Supervising Judge of the Unified Family Court;6. The court hereby delegates to the Supervising Judge of the Probate Division authority to issue a general order applicable to any and all cases pursuant to the Probate Code to declare a holiday with time limits set by the Probate Code;		
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	<p>7. The court hereby delegates to the Supervising Judge of the Real Property and Housing Department authority to issue a general order applicable to any and all cases pursuant to state and local ordinances to declare a holiday for all purposes in all unlawful detainer cases (including but not limited to, responding to complaint, responding to discovery, filing and responding to motions, setting trials, etc.) filed pursuant to the above; and</p> <p>8. The court hereby delegates to the Judge of the Civil Harassment Department authority to issue a general order applicable to any and all cases pursuant to state law to declare a holiday for purposes of responding to petitions pursuant to the above. The court hereby extends by not more than 21 days the duration of any temporary restraining order that would otherwise expire from March 16, 2020 to April 15, 2020 inclusive.</p>		
Santa Barbara County Superior Court	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• The Santa Barbara Superior Court has suspended all non-emergency services effective March 17, 2020 – April 3, 2020. In an effort to protect the public and court staff, no court hearings will be held in the Court locations until April 6th, 2020. This is subject to extension.• All civil proceedings will be rescheduled and notice of a new date will be sent to the parties. All Unlawful Detainer (UD) matters will be rescheduled. All temporary restraining orders which would otherwise expire during this closure will be automatically extended for 30 days.	Click Here for More Information	3/23/2020

	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• For purposes of computing time for filing papers with the Court under Code of Civil Procedure sections 12 and 12a, any dates from March 17, 2020 to March 27, 2020 inclusive, are deemed holidays (Gov. Code, § 68115(a)(4)).• The clerk's office will continue to accept electronic filings. All attorneys are required to E-file.		
Ventura County Superior Court	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• All courtrooms and clerk's offices will remain closed from March 19, 2020 through April 17, 2020, except for essential emergency matters and time sensitive essential functions.• For the purposes of computing time for filing papers, March 19-April 17, 2020 are deemed holidays.• All Civil Long Cause Jury & Non-Jury Trials, Civil Law & Motion hearings, Short Cause Matters and Trials, Trials De Novo and courtroom 22b matters are suspended for 90 days, to be continued by the court to a later date, with notice to the parties.	Click Here for More Information	3/20/2020

CALIFORNIA FEDERAL COURTS

Court	Closure Information	Link	Updated
Central District	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The United States District Court for the Central District of California has activated its Continuity of Operations Plan ("COOP"), effective March 23, 2020 through and including May 1, 2020. • All of the Courthouses of the Central District of California will be closed to the public except for hearings on criminal duty matters, as indicated. • In civil cases, no hearings will go forward except for emergency time-sensitive matters, such as requests for temporary restraining orders and preliminary injunctions, as ordered by the assigned judicial officer. Any hearings on emergency civil matters will proceed telephonically only. • Effective immediately, the Court will not call in jurors for service in civil or criminal jury trials until April 13, 2020 or otherwise ordered by the Court. • The court's CM/ECF system is available 24/7 for electronic filing of documents. Filing deadlines will remain in place unless otherwise ordered by the presiding Judge per GENERAL ORDER NO. 20-02. 	Click Here for More Information	3/23/2020
Southern District	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • All jury trials in civil and criminal cases in the Southern District of California are continued until April 16, 2020. New trial or status dates will be set in individual cases on or before April 16, 2020, unless this emergency suspension of trials is extended. • In civil cases, the personal appearance of counsel, parties, witnesses, or other non-court personnel at proceedings, hearings, or conferences is excused, unless they are ordered to appear in person by a judicial 	Click Here for More Information	3/23/2020

	<p>officer after March 23, 2020. With the exception of jury trials, judges will retain discretion to schedule and hold proceedings, hearings, and conferences telephonically or by video conferencing, as permitted by law.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> In civil cases, documents are not to be filed in person at the courthouse as permitted by Civil L.R. 77 .1. Counsel and parties should not come to the courthouse or send others to the courthouse to file or submit documents that can be mailed or filed electronically. The requirement of Civil L.R. 5.4 requiring courtesy copies of filings longer than 20 pages is suspended as to civil cases until April 16, 2020 unless extended by the Court. 		
Eastern District	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Effective immediately through May 1, 2020, the United States District Court for the Eastern District of California shall be closed to the public. The court will not call in jurors for service in civil or criminal jury trials until May 1, 2020. All civil and criminal jury trials in the Eastern District of California scheduled to begin during this time period are continued pending further order of the court. The court may issue other orders concerning future continuances as necessary and appropriate. All of the court's civil matters will be decided on the papers, or if the assigned Judge believes a hearing is necessary, the hearing will be by telephone or videoconference. This applies to all matters including motion hearings, case management conferences, pretrial conferences and settlement conferences. 	Click Here for More Information	3/18/2020
Northern District	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> It is hereby ordered that effective March 24, 2020, the San Jose Courthouse shall be closed entirely to both staff and the public, with no exceptions, until April 7, 2020. All other courthouses of the United States District Court, Northern District of California, shall remain closed to the general public until May 1, 2020. Only persons having official court business authorized by General Order No. 72, or by a presiding judge, may enter courthouse property. 	Click Here for More Information	3/23/2020

- No criminal or civil jury trials will be commenced before May 1, 2020. Any trial dates currently scheduled are vacated.
- All civil matters will be decided on the papers, or if the assigned judge believes a hearing is necessary, the hearing will be by telephone or videoconference.
- The requirement under Civil Local Rule 5-1 that a courtesy copy of any filing be provided to the assigned judge's chambers is suspended pending further notice.

RELEVANT NON-CALIFORNIA COURTS

Court	Closure Information	Link	Updated
Superior Court of Washington, King County	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • All King County Superior Court jury trials are suspended through April 24, 2020. All civil trials currently scheduled in King County Superior Court between March 16, 2020 and June 8, 2020 are stricken and will be re-set to a date on or after June 8, 2020. The parties may submit an agreed order for a new trial date to their IC Judge. If the parties cannot agree, either party may file a motion or request a status conference with that Judge after April 24, 2020. • All non-emergency civil matters shall be continued until after April 24, 2020, except those motions, actions on agreed orders, conferences or other proceedings that can appropriately be conducted by telephone, video or other means that does not require in-person attendance. 	Click Here for More Information	3/27/2020

- All current non-emergency motions will be Denied without Prejudice, and may be re-noted to a date after April 24, 2020. (This includes all summary Judgments and motions without oral argument.) All motions arguing that matters are an emergency are to be noted without oral argument. Non-emergency matters should not be submitted in the Ex Parte queue.
- When the court is able to resume the processing of non-emergency motions, oral argument will be by telephone or video-conference only, unless in the rare event the assigned judge requests in-person oral argument. Until further notice, in-person court appearances for all civil cases will not be permitted without prior written permission from the assigned judicial officer.

If we can be of assistance and to discuss various options and specific situations, please feel free to contact the Buchalter attorneys below.



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