



**SUPERIOR COURT OF CALIFORNIA
COUNTY OF MONTEREY**

240 Church Street, Salinas, California 93901 - (831) 775-5400
www.monterey.courts.ca.gov

JULIE R. CULVER
Presiding Judge
2020 - 2022

PAMELA L. BUTLER
Asst. Presiding Judge

CHRIS RUHL
Court Executive Officer

**INTERIM ORDER RE MODIFICATION TO COURT OPERATIONS AND
SERVICES (2020-05)**

This Court HEREBY FINDS AND ORDERS AS FOLLOWS:

1. Since March 4, 2020, the State of California has been in a State of Emergency as a result of the threat of COVID-19.
2. On March 12, 2020, Governor Gavin Newsom issued an order mandating compliance with state and local public health officials to control the spread of COVID-19.
3. On March 19, 2020, Governor Newsom issued an order directing all Californians to shelter in place at their place of residence with certain exceptions.
4. Effective March 18, 2020, at 12:01 a.m., the County of Monterey Health Officer issued an order directing all individuals living in Monterey County to shelter at their place of residence except to provide or receive essential services or to engage in certain essential activities and to work for essential businesses and governmental agencies. Court personnel are categorically exempt from the order and the subsequent orders.
5. Additional Shelter in Place Orders, with modifications were issued by the County of Monterey Health Officer on April 3, 2020, May 1, 2020 and May 26, 2020. A Mandatory Face Covering Order was issued by the County of Monterey Health Officer on April 28, 2020.
6. On March 30, 2020, Chief Justice of the California Supreme Court, and Chair of the Judicial Council, Hon. Tani Cantil-Sakauye issued a Statewide Emergency Order encouraging courts to make use of available technology, when possible, to conduct judicial proceedings and court operations remotely in order to protect the safety of the public, court personnel, judicial officers, litigants, and witnesses.
7. On April 6, 2020, the Judicial Council adopted Emergency Rules providing for, among other things, the use of technology for remote appearances and allowing the courts to require that judicial proceedings and court operations be conducted remotely.
8. Effective June 20, 2020, Emergency Rule 4 of the California Rules of Court, Emergency Bail Schedule will be repealed.
9. Since March 18, 2020, the Superior Court has focused on providing the capability for conducting proceedings remotely to limit the physical appearance of litigants or attorneys at the courthouses.
10. Governor Newsom provided a Resilience Roadmap noting stages for modifying the statewide order. As of May 8, 2020, the State of California had progressed from Stage 1: Safety and Preparedness to Stage 2: Lower Risk Workplaces.
11. On May 30, 2020, the California Department of Public Health approved the Monterey County Attestation for the California Health Resilience Roadmap allowing Monterey County to advance into expanded Stage 2.

12. During Stage 1, the Superior Court focused on implementing measures and protocols to provide safe courthouses. Workspace for employees and staff has been modified, moved, and adjusted to provide for social distancing and to promote safe working spaces. Protocols have been put in place to allow for remote work for some staff and for the overall safety of employees. Public spaces used by litigants, justice partners, attorneys and the public have been prepared to resume the conduct of court business in a safe manner, putting in place social distancing and additional security measures.
13. Consonant with the above orders of the Governor, Monterey County, and the Chief Justice of the California Supreme Court, and consistent with the efforts made to provide safe working environments and spaces for the public, the Superior Court of California, County of Monterey is resuming functions that have been limited by the COVID-19 threat.

COURTHOUSE ACCESS:

1. All courthouses are open to the public. Security screening at all facilities includes temperature checks of all entrants. All entrants are required to comply with the Monterey County Mandatory Face Covering Order.
2. Information regarding telephonic access to the public to listen to public court hearings is provided on the court website.

ELECTRONIC FILING:

All filings in all case types should be filed electronically.

Persons who are unable to file documents electronically may file by mail; by using the drop box; or in person at any courthouse location.

CRIMINAL MATTERS:

Calendars in criminal matters are being heard in all departments.

Jury trials resumed in criminal matters beginning June 1, 2020.

TEMPORARY BAIL/OWN RECOGNIZANCE (O.R.) RELEASE:

Pursuant to the repeal of Emergency Rule 4 effective June 20, 2020, and adoption of a revised Monterey County bail schedule, the 2020 Monterey County Criminal Bail Schedule is effective June 20, 2020 at 12:01 a.m..

JUVENILE MATTERS:

Juvenile matters are currently being heard.

TRAFFIC MATTERS:

Traffic matters are currently being heard.

Traffic payments will be accepted through the court's online portal or at the clerk's window.

FAMILY MATTERS:

Family law matters are being scheduled and heard. The court encourages the use of telephonic and remote appearances. The court may require remote appearances in some cases or continue matters at its discretion. Trials resumed in family law matters on June 15, 2020.

CIVIL MATTERS:

Civil matters are currently being heard. The court encourages use of telephonic and remote appearances. Jury trials resumed in civil matters on June 15, 2020.

Ex Parte matters are currently being heard. The court encourages use of telephonic and remote appearances.

If all parties agree in writing, a request may be submitted for the court to rule on a filed noticed motion without a hearing for matters that were scheduled to be heard on the following civil calendars:

- Dept 13 Civil Law & Motion Monday at 9:05
- Dept 13 Civil Complex Law & Motion Tuesday at 8:30
- Dept 13 Civil Ex Parte Thursday at 10:00
- Dept 14 Civil Law & Motion Friday at 9:00
- Dept 15 Civil Law & Motion Friday at 9:00

All interested parties must waive the hearing in writing. After the agreement is processed, the court will determine whether the filed motion is appropriate to rule on without a hearing.

PROBATE MATTERS:


Beginning June 17, 2020, all probate matters will be heard. The court encourages the use of telephonic and remote appearances. The court may continue hearings pursuant to Probate Code 1045 upon request by an interested party unable to attend a hearing. For matters that are continued, temporary orders set to expire may be extended by court order. A copy of such orders will be mailed to the parties.

UNLAWFUL DETAINERS/EVICTIONS

Processing of unlawful detainer/eviction actions will continue consonant with Emergency Rule 1, adopted by the Judicial Council on April 6, 2020, any amendments thereto, and any local orders or ordinances enacted in response to the COVID-19 threat and the impact thereof.

IT IS SO ORDERED.

Dated June 19, 2020



Hon. Julie R. Culver
Presiding Judge
Monterey County Superior Court