



SUPERIOR COURT OF  
CALIFORNIA  
COUNTY OF RIVERSIDE  
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Riverside, CA 92501

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# NEWS RELEASE

## RIVERSIDE SUPERIOR COURT TAKES ACTIONS RELATED TO CORONAVIRUS (COVID-19) OUTBREAK

**Release Date: March 17, 2020**

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### RIVERSIDE COUNTY:

On March 4, 2020, Governor Gavin Newsom issued a Proclamation of a State Emergency concerning COVID-19. On March 12, 2020 Governor Newsom issued Executive Order N-25-20, which provides guidance on COVID-19. On March 8, 2020, the Riverside County Public Health Officer issued a Declaration of Local Health Emergency based on the imminent and proximate threat to public health. Although courts of law are exempt from this Order, the Court has been strongly encouraged to take affirmative action to reduce the number of individuals gathering at the same time in one place.

The Riverside Superior Court is taking precautions to maintain a safe environment for all court customers, jurors, and staff. The court recognizes the balance that must be maintained between public health and safety and the constitutional rights of our citizens. At the Court's request and as permitted under Government Code section 68115, the Chief Justice of the California Supreme Court has issued an emergency order at the request of the Presiding Judge. This order, along with the Riverside Superior Court's administrative order, provide that retroactive to March 16, 2020 the following will take effect:

Case Type	Actions
<b>Criminal</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• The Court will continue to hear in-custody arraignments for both misdemeanor and felony cases and gun violence restraining orders.</li><li>• All criminal jury trials are continued for 14 days. Criminal jury trials that are in-progress will be evaluated on a case-by-case basis.</li></ul>
<b>Civil</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• The Court will continue to hear civil harassments, other types of civil restraining orders, ex-parte applications, and name change petitions.</li><li>• Unlimited and limited civil trials are suspended until May 25, 2020. Civil trials that are in-progress will be evaluated on a case-by-case basis.</li><li>• All other matters will be conducted telephonically and by judge's order, or continued as needed.</li></ul>

<b>Probate</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The Court will continue to hear temporary guardianship and temporary conservatorship cases, LPS conservatorships, elder abuse restraining orders, Riese hearings, and ex-parte applications.</li> <li>• All other matters will be continued with the exception of those that can be conducted telephonically.</li> <li>• Probate investigator in-person interviews are postponed until further notice.</li> </ul>
<b>Family Law</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The Court will continue to hear domestic violence restraining orders and ex-parte applications.</li> <li>• All other matters will be continued. Telephonic appearance may be ordered on a case-by-case basis.</li> </ul>
<b>Juvenile</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The Court will continue to hear detention hearings, contested and uncontested jurisdiction hearings, requests to re-enter foster care, restraining order applications and ex-parte applications.</li> <li>• All other matters will be continued with the exception of those that can be conducted telephonically.</li> </ul>
<b>Traffic</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The Court will postpone all traffic matters for 30 days. Traffic court trials will be postponed for 14 days.</li> <li>• Night court traffic matters will be suspended for 30 days and matters already scheduled will be continued.</li> </ul>
<b>Small Claims</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The Court will postpone all small claims matters for 90 days.</li> <li>• Night court small claims matters will be suspended for 90 days and matters already scheduled will be continued.</li> </ul>
<b>Unlawful Detainers</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The Court will postpone all unlawful detainer matters for 60 days.</li> </ul>

These actions are not in response to a specific notice of exposure at any court facility; rather, they are being taken to exercise the precautions necessary to maintain the safety and well being of those who visit the courthouse, and to consolidate court operations during the COVID-19 pandemic.

**Those feeling ill and experiencing flu-like symptoms, have a fever, are coughing or sneezing, should not come to the courthouse.** Instead of coming to court, customers are strongly encouraged to conduct judicial business remotely if possible. The court encourages court customers to file documents online through the eSubmit Document Submission Portal. The \$1.85 eSubmit transaction fee has been suspended through June 30th, 2020. Telephonic appearances are available for hearings that have not been continued.

For options on how to conduct court business remotely, please visit the home page of our website at [www.riverside.courts.ca.gov](http://www.riverside.courts.ca.gov) (Court's Response to Coronavirus).

If you have been summoned for jury service please do not report during this period of time, you should request a postponement of your service by utilizing one of the following options:

- Log on to the [Juror Web Portal](#)
- Use the automated phone system at: [951.275.5076](#) or [760.342.6264](#); or
- Send an email to:  
[JuryRiv@riverside.courts.ca.gov](mailto:JuryRiv@riverside.courts.ca.gov) – Riverside or Banning Courts  
[JurySW@riverside.courts.ca.gov](mailto:JurySW@riverside.courts.ca.gov) –Murrieta Court  
[JuryInd@riverside.courts.ca.gov](mailto:JuryInd@riverside.courts.ca.gov) –Indio Court

We appreciate the support and understanding of the public and our justice partners during these challenging times.

*Electronic version available at: [www.riverside.courts.ca.gov](http://www.riverside.courts.ca.gov) under Media Center.*

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