FILED
Clerk of the Superior Court
MAY 12 2020
By: K. CERSOSIMO

THE SUPERIOR COURT OF THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA

COUNTY OF SAN DIEGO

IN RE: RESTORATION OF CIVIL SERVICES	**GENERAL ORDER OF THE PRESIDING DEPARTMENT** **ORDER NO. 051220-51**

Due to the life-threatening COVID-19 pandemic, the Governor of California has declared a state of emergency in this state. The President of the United States has also declared a national emergency. In response to the pandemic, the court has been closed to the public and has suspended services, except for specified time-sensitive and essential functions. (See General Orders of the Presiding Department, Ord. Nos. 031820-34, 040320-39, and 043020-47.) All matters not deemed time-sensitive and essential that were scheduled on and between March 17, 2020 and May 22, 2020 were ordered continued. (*Id.*) In addition, all dates from March 17, 2020 to May 22, 2020, inclusive, have been deemed holidays for purposes of computing time for filing papers under Code of Civil Procedure sections 12 and 12a. (*Id.*)

Pursuant to the court's inherent authority to control its own calendars and the Presiding Judge's duty to take into account the needs of the public and court as they relate to the efficient and effective management of the court (Cal. Rules of Court, rule 10.603), this court now **HEREBY FINDS AND ORDERS AS FOLLOWS**:

A. <u>Civil Cases Assigned To Civil Independent Calendar Departments:</u>

1. Unless otherwise ordered by the Independent Calendar Judge hearing a matter, all hearings on civil motions in an Independent Calendar Department as of March 17, 2020, are hereby vacated.
2. The term "Independent Calendar Department" refers to the following Departments:
   - Departments 64, 65, 66, 67, 68, 69, 70, 71, 72, 73, 74, and 75, located in the Hall of Justice, 330 West Broadway, San Diego, CA 92101; and
   - Departments N-27, N-28, N-29, and N-30 located in the North County Regional Center, 325 South Melrose Dr., Vista, CA 92081.
3. To obtain a new hearing date, the parties shall follow the following procedure:
   - The parties are directed to meet and confer regarding the continued necessity of the motion.
   - If, after meeting and conferring with the opposing party/parties, the moving party desires to go forward with the motion, the moving party must first schedule a Status Conference in the Independent Calendar Department in which the case is assigned in order address the re-scheduling of the matter with the Judicial Officer.
   - Beginning May 18, 2020, Status Conferences shall be scheduled using the Online Civil Scheduling Assistant, which may be accessed via the court's website on the Court's COVID-19 page (www.sdcourt.ca.gov). Parties who do not have access to the Online Civil Scheduling Assistant may call the applicable department's independent calendar clerk for assistance with scheduling the Status Conference.
   - Motion hearings vacated by this Order will not be re-calendared unless and until a Status Conference is held.

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4. Case Management Conferences that were calendared between March 17, 2020 and May 22, 2020 are hereby continued approximately 120 days from the date they were originally set to be heard. The court will provide notice of the new date and time of the Case Management Conference to the parties.
5. Case Management Conferences that are currently set on or after May 26, 2020 are hereby continued approximately 120 days from the date they are currently set to be heard. The court will provide notice of the new date and time of the Case Management Conference to the parties.
6. Trials and Trial Readiness Conferences that were calendared between March 17, 2020 and May 22, 2020 are hereby continued approximately 180 days from the date they were originally set to be heard. The court will provide notice of the new dates and times of the Trial and Trial Readiness Conference to the parties.
7. Trials and Trial Readiness Conferences that are currently set on or after and May 26, 2020 are hereby continued approximately 180 days from the date they were originally set to be heard. The court will provide notice of the new dates and times of the Trial and Trial Readiness Conference to the parties.
8. Motion/Discovery Cut-Off and Expert Designation Dates in any cases where the trial date is extended by this order are extended by 180 days from the date they were originally set.

B. <u>Unlimited Civil Cases Not Assigned To Civil Independent Calendar Departments:</u>

1. All hearings in unlimited civil cases, except those related to restraining or protective orders, gun violence restraining orders and name changes, that are not assigned to Independent Calendar Departments and on calendar on or after March 17, 2020 are hereby vacated and will be re-calendared on a date and time to be determined. The court will provide notice to the parties of the new date and time of the re-scheduled hearing, as well as information regarding how to appear.

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C. Limited Civil Cases:

1. All hearings on calendar in a limited civil action on or after March 17, 2020 are hereby vacated and will be re-calendared on a date and time to be determined. The court will provide notice to the parties of the new date and time of the re-scheduled hearing, as well as information regarding how to appear.

D. Small Claims Cases:

1. All hearings on calendar in a small claims action on or after March 17, 2020 are hereby vacated and will be re-calendared on a date and time to be determined. The court will provide notice to the parties of the new date and time of the re-scheduled hearing, as well as information regarding how to appear.

E. Unlawful Detainer Cases:

1. All hearings on calendar in an unlawful detainer action on or after March 17, 2020 are hereby vacated and will be re-calendared on a date and time to be determined. The court will provide notice to the parties of the new date and time of the re-scheduled hearing, as well as information regarding how to appear.

F. Absent an express order from the court, all court appearances shall be made via telephonic or video conference only. Unless otherwise instructed by the court, to arrange a telephonic or video appearance, contact CourtCall at (888) 882-6878 or https://courtcall.com/.

G. Nothing in this Order shall be construed as prohibiting the court from making such orders as the Judicial Officer deems necessary in any individual case.

H. In the event that this Order conflicts with any prior order of this Court, this Order shall control.

THIS ORDER IS EFFECTIVE IMMEDIATELY AND MAY BE AMENDED AS CIRCUMSTANCES REQUIRE.

DATED: May 12, 2020

HON. LORNA A. ALKSNE
PRESIDING JUDGE