

NEWS RELEASE

SUPERIOR COURT OF CALIFORNIA • COUNTY OF SAN DIEGO

Post Office Box 120128 • San Diego, CA 92112-0128

Release: Immediately Date: 04/29/2020

San Diego Superior Court Extends Service Suspension through May 22

The San Diego Superior Court plans to re-open to the public on Tuesday, May 26, following the Memorial Day holiday

In the on-going effort to mitigate community spread of COVID-19, and in the interest of the health and safety of all Court visitors and employees, the San Diego Superior Court has received approval from the Judicial Council of California to extend the suspension of all non-emergency services **through May 22**, **2020.** The Court will be closed in observance of Memorial Day on Monday, May 25, making the revised planned re-opening date Tuesday, May 26.

"As COVID-19 continues to be a concern for our community, we are closely monitoring the recommendations from local and state public health agencies while working to determine the safest way to resume normal operations," said San Diego Superior Court Presiding Judge Lorna Alksne. "After careful consideration, we have deemed it necessary to extend the Court's suspension of our usual services. In the meantime, the Court has worked to increase the number of services that we are able to safely provide and we are exploring additional technological solutions to be able to continue increasing services available online and remotely until we can fully re-open our doors to the public."

A <u>full list of currently available services</u> is posted on the Court's website and is being updated with new services as they are added.

Even during the Court's closure, services have still been provided across all case types. For example, the Court has received nearly 1,000 requests for temporary restraining orders and completed more than 800 video and telephonic hearings for in-custody criminal matters.

Answers to frequently asked questions during the Court's closure are also posted online at sdcourt.ca.gov/coronavirus.

If you have a pending case, please first check the FAQs provided on the Court's website. If you still have a case-specific question, please send an email to the relevant address below. Non-case specific questions will not be answered and the court will not accept documents submitted through these email boxes. Please be advised that emails and any attachments will not be included in the court file or be considered a court record, may not be preserved, and will not be forwarded to the judicial officer presiding over your matter as that would constitute an ex parte communication. You must include your name and case number:

Department	Email
Criminal	<u>CRM@SDCOURT.CA.GOV</u>
Traffic	TRF@SDCOURT.CA.GOV
Civil	CVL@SDCOURT.CA.GOV
Jury	JURYSUPPORT@SDCOURT.CA.GOV

Superior Court of California, County of San Diego NEWS RELEASE Page 2 of 2

Probate	PRB@SDCOURT.CA.GOV
Family	FAM@SDCOURT.CA.GOV
Small Claims	SMC@SDCOURT.CA.GOV
Appeals	APP@SDCOURT.CA.GOV

In addition, the Court has instituted the following changes through May 22, 2020, unless otherwise noted:

Jury	• All jurors summoned for the dates March 16, 2020-May 22, 2020, are not to report to the Courthouse. You have fulfilled your service. Jurors summoned past May 22, 2020, are to monitor sdcourt.ca.gov for additional information.
Workshops and Clinics	 All workshops and clinics have been cancelled through May 22, 2020. Family Law Facilitator staff is available in the Central, East, North and South County Division offices for walk-in assistance with ex parte requests for restraining orders. The Court's contracted service providers, Legal Aid Society of San Diego (LASSD) and San Diego Volunteer Lawyers Program (SDVLP), as well as the Center for Community Solutions (CCS), will offer alternatives to their onsite clinic services so that self-represented litigants can obtain assistance for emergency matters: Legal Aid Society of San Diego: www.lassd.org; 877-534-2524 San Diego Volunteer Lawyer Program: www.sdvlp.org; 619-235-5656 Center for Community Solutions: www.ccssd.org; 858-272-5777
Court Researchers	All Court Research activities will be discontinued until after May 22, 2020. Please monitor sdcourt.ca.gov for any updated information.

Please monitor the San Diego Superior Court website (<u>sdcourt.ca.gov</u>) for continued updated information.