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**THE SUPERIOR COURT OF THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA
COUNTY OF SAN DIEGO**

**IN RE COMMUNITY ASSISTANCE,
RECOVERY, AND EMPOWERMENT
(CARE) ACT PROCEEDINGS**

**GENERAL ORDER OF THE PRESIDING
DEPARTMENT**

ORDER NO. 010124-34

Pursuant to the authority set forth in California Rules of Court, rules 7.2210 and 10.603, IT
IS HEREBY ORDERED:

A. Petitions to Commence CARE Act Proceedings (JC Form #CARE-100) and supporting documentation may be submitted in-person at the business offices at the Central Courthouse (First Floor Business Office, Room 150), North County Courthouse (First Floor Business Office, Suite 500), East County Courthouse (First Floor Clerk's Office), and South County Courthouse (Second Floor Clerk's Office). Petitions and supporting documentation may also be mailed to the following address:

San Diego Superior Court – Central Courthouse
Attn: CARE Act – First Floor Business Office, Room 150
1100 Union Street, First Floor
San Diego, CA 92101

B. All CARE Act proceedings will be assigned to the Central Division, regardless of where the petition was submitted for filing. Court hearings will be scheduled in the Central Division, only. Remote appearances are permitted, unless otherwise ordered by the court.

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C. The court will appoint the San Diego Office of the Public Defender to represent respondents pursuant to Welfare & Institutions Code section 5977, subdivisions (a)(3)(A)(ii) and (a)(5)(C)(ii) and California Rules of Court, rule 7.2230, subdivision (a)(2).


D. In accordance with California Rules of Court, rule 7.2225, subdivision (b), and pursuant to Welfare & Institutions Code section 5978, subdivision (b), the director of County of San Diego Behavioral Health Services (“BHS”) or their designee will be the petitioner upon the court’s referral of a defendant to CARE Act proceedings under Penal Code section 1370.01. Upon such a referral, BHS will evaluate the defendant for eligibility in the CARE program and, if eligible, file a Petition to Commence CARE Act Proceedings (JC Form #CARE-100).

E. Refer to the court’s website at <http://www.sdcourt.ca.gov/CAREAct> for additional information regarding CARE Act proceedings.

This order shall become effective on January 1, 2024, and expire on December 31, 2024, unless otherwise ordered by this court.

IT IS SO ORDERED.

DATED: December 27, 2023



HONORABLE MICHAEL T. SMYTH
PRESIDING JUDGE