

1 The court plans to continue providing many services remotely, including most hearings.
2 However, beginning September 10, 2020, the court opened public access to certain portions of its
3 facilities with capacity limits to allow for adequate social distancing. The court will continue to
4 update its website (www.sdcourt.ca.gov) with information regarding which in-person services and
5 facilities are available.

6 The court resumed in-person jury trials with one trial in the Central Courthouse beginning
7 on October 13, 2020. The court will continue to gradually increase the number of jury trials per
8 week and expand to other courthouses subject to social distancing limitations and other applicable
9 public health guidance.

10 For those who must enter the court's facilities, the court will comply with the guidance from
11 county, state, and federal health authorities, including, but not limited to, conducting temperature
12 and/or symptom screenings, requiring face coverings, enforcing social distancing, continuing
13 increased cleaning measures, and providing hand sanitizer kiosks.

14 For good cause and pursuant to the court's inherent supervisory and administrative
15 authority, as well as the Presiding Judge's duty to promote access to justice for all members of the
16 public, taking into account the needs of the public and court as they relate to the efficient and
17 effective management of the court (Cal. Rules of Court, rule 10.603), and in order to protect the
18 health and safety of the public, court personnel, judicial officers, parties, attorneys, witnesses, and
19 law enforcement officers, this court HEREBY FINDS AND ORDERS AS FOLLOWS:

20 Until further notice, the court will comply with guidance from county, state, and federal
21 health authorities and impose COVID-19 preventative control measures and symptom screening,
22 including, but not limited to, the following:

23 1. All persons, including court staff and judicial officers, who enter, or are in line to enter,
24 any court facility must wear a face covering consistent with the requirements of the California
25 Department of Public Health Guidance ("CDPH Guidance") for the Use of Face Coverings issued
26 on November 16, 2020⁴. Court staff and judicial officers may remove their face covering when

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28 ⁴ CDPH Guidance is available at: <https://www.cdph.ca.gov/Programs/CID/DCDC/Pages/COVID-19/guidance-for-face-coverings.aspx>.

1 working in an office or room alone or when actively eating or drinking provided they are able to
2 maintain six feet of social distancing from persons who are not members of the same household. In
3 addition, judicial officers may remove their face covering when on the bench if Plexiglas barriers
4 are in place. Persons younger than two years old are exempt from wearing a face covering. Other
5 persons exempted by the CDPH Guidance, such as those with a medical condition, mental health
6 condition, or disability that prevents wearing a face covering, will be assisted outside the courthouse
7 or provided with an alternative accommodation. Any non-exempt person without a face covering
8 may be denied entry to the courthouse or courtroom.

9 2. In addition to paragraph 1, all persons, including court staff and judicial officers, must
10 wear a face covering at all times in any courtroom in the Juvenile Courthouse.

11 3. To be permitted into the courthouse, all persons, including court staff and judicial
12 officers, must submit to temperature screening. The temperature screening is being coordinated with
13 the San Diego County Sheriff's Department. Temperature screening will be conducted Monday
14 through Friday, with the hours varied depending on location. No individual will be permitted to
15 enter the courthouse with a temperature of 100 degrees or more.

16 4. No person will be permitted to enter the courthouse if that person is exhibiting COVID-
17 19 symptoms as described by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention ("CDC") (available
18 at: <https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/symptoms-testing/symptoms.html>), which
19 currently include, but are not limited to, fever or chills, cough, shortness of breath or difficulty
20 breathing, fatigue, muscle or body aches, headache, new loss of taste or smell, sore throat,
21 congestion or runny nose, nausea or vomiting, or diarrhea.

22 5. Social distancing of at least six (6) feet shall be enforced in all courthouses, courtrooms,
23 business offices, and public areas to the extent possible.

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1 6. This order does not restrict or otherwise abrogate the express and inherent authority of
2 the court and its judges to provide for the orderly conduct of proceedings, control in the furtherance
3 of justice the conduct of persons connected with judicial proceedings, or to control processes and
4 orders so as to make them conform to law and justice.

5 THIS ORDER IS EFFECTIVE IMMEDIATELY AND WILL REMAIN IN EFFECT
6 UNTIL OTHERWISE ORDERED BY THE PRESIDING JUDGE.

7 IT IS SO ORDERED.

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9 DATED: December 31, 2020



**HONORABLE LORNA A. ALKSNE
PRESIDING JUDGE**

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