



SUPERIOR COURT OF CALIFORNIA, COUNTY OF SAN DIEGO

SERVICES THAT MAY BE PROVIDED BY THE SAN DIEGO SUPERIOR COURT DURING THE COVID-19 PANDEMIC

Due to the ongoing health and safety concerns related to the COVID-19 pandemic, the emergency declarations and orders of government officials related thereto, and San Diego Superior Court General Orders, all courthouses, courtrooms, and services are closed to the public except for certain time-sensitive and essential functions.

This document, referenced and authorized by General Order of the Presiding Department of the San Diego Superior Court, Order No. 042320-46, enumerates all services that may be provided by the court during the COVID-19 pandemic court closure.

This document is current as of **May 18, 2020**, and will continue to be updated as additional services are authorized by the Presiding Judge.

The services available during the current court closure are as follows:

Case-Type	Services
General / All Case Types	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Upon remittitur from the California Supreme Court or a California Court of Appeal, the issuance, filing, and processing of documents, including orders and judgments, to effectuate orders issued by the appellate court. • The court may issue orders in cases in which the matter has been under submission and the court finds it necessary to issue and file the order in order to comply with the ninety (90) day deadline set forth by article VI, section 19 of the California Constitution. • Processing final orders/judgments after hearing for matters heard prior to the closure of the court on March 17, 2020.
Civil	<p>The court has suspended the acceptance of e-File documents. Please refer to the Frequently Asked Questions link for Civil matters on the COVID-19 page to obtain information on how to request and file for an <i>ex parte</i> hearing for the services below.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Initial <i>ex parte</i> requests for gun violence emergency protective orders, and civil harassment, elder abuse, gun violence, workplace violence, and school violence temporary restraining orders. • Requests to renew restraining orders that are expiring. • Emergency (<i>ex parte</i>) lockout proceedings in landlord-tenant disputes (Unlawful Detainer). • Petitions for writs seeking emergency relief in landlord-tenant matters (Unlawful Detainer). • Emergency writs challenging COVID-19 quarantines/emergency measures. • Motions for new trial pursuant to Code Civ. Proc. §§ 656 et seq. • Motions for judgment notwithstanding the verdict pursuant to Code Civ. Proc. § 629. • Motions to vacate judgment pursuant to Code Civ. Proc., § 663. • Abatement warrants. • <i>Ex parte</i> requests seeking emergency temporary restraining or protective orders of any type. • Emergency <i>ex parte</i> hearings regarding claims of exemption. • <i>Ex parte</i> petitions to approve compromised/disputed claims (for minors or disabled persons only). • <i>Ex parte</i> hearings to stop utility shut-offs from occurring. • Claim of right to possession in Unlawful Detainer proceedings. • Acceptance of security and appeal bonds.

Case-Type	Services
Criminal	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • In-custody miscellaneous criminal hearings including, but not limited to, change of pleas, arraignments, and preliminary hearings, via video/audio systems. • Petitions for writs of habeas corpus, including related motions and filings. • Requests and orders to lower or increase bail or order pre-arraignment release on defendant's own recognizance. • Requests and orders to release from custody pursuant to stipulation as to Pen. Code § 977 waivers, waivers of time for preliminary hearing or trial, and defendant's release. • Probable cause determinations for persons arrested without a warrant. • Search warrant requests by law enforcement. • Petitions for Expungement under Penal Code § 1203.4.
Family	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Initial <i>ex parte</i> requests for domestic violence temporary restraining orders. • Requests to renew restraining orders that are expiring. • <i>Ex parte</i> requests for emergency orders for all types of Family matters. • Emergency surrogacy order requests.
Juvenile	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Juvenile temporary restraining orders and other emergency Juvenile orders. • Juvenile dependency detention hearings with all parties appearing remotely. • Juvenile justice detention hearings with all parties appearing remotely. • Juvenile justice in-custody cases where resolution is reached, with all parties appearing remotely. • Emergency requests pursuant to Welf. & Inst. Code § 827. • <i>Ex parte</i> Juvenile dependency requests asking the court to adopt the recommendations of the child welfare agency (including but not limited to family maintenance reviews, post permanency planning reviews, and 6-month, 12-month, and 18-month reviews) where all counsel have submitted written stipulations (pursuant to Emergency Rules of Court, rule 6(c)(5)). • <i>Ex parte</i> Juvenile justice requests asking the court to adopt the recommendations of the Probation Department, where all counsel have submitted written stipulations. • Effective May 1, 2020, adoptions, with all parties appearing remotely. • Effective May 11, 2020, Contested Juvenile dependency hearings with no witnesses, with all parties appearing remotely.
Probate	<p>The court has suspended the acceptance of e-File documents. Please refer to the Frequently Asked Questions link for Probate matters on the COVID-19 page to obtain information on how to request and file for an <i>ex parte</i> hearing for the services below.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Emergency Probate orders, including emergency conservatorships and emergency guardianships
Mental Health	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Lanterman-Petris-Short (LPS) Act (Welf. & Inst. Code § 5332) petitions regarding capacity to consent to or refuse antipsychotic medication (<i>Riese</i> Hearings) and, for these patients, Welf. & Inst. Code §5254 certification review hearings, remotely via telephone conference. • Additional certification review hearings will be progressively calendared during the closure in cooperation with the Office of the Public Defender and the Office of Patient Advocacy. • Writs and appeals arising from the above-described Mental Health hearings (LPS <i>Riese</i> and certification review hearings) that have taken place while the court is closed, with all parties appearing remotely. • LPS conservatorship and conservatorship-related proceedings, and writs and appeals from these proceedings, with all parties appearing remotely. • ECT petitions.
Traffic	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Online Case/Citation Processing Portal to pay traffic tickets/citations, request extensions, request traffic school or pay court-ordered fines.

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