

Updates and Information Regarding Novel Coronavirus 2019 (COVID-19) (Updated on March 15, 2020)

Based on the information the court has as of March 15, 2020 regarding the Novel Coronavirus 2019 (COVID-19), court services will substantially be curtailed in order to limit the volume of individuals having to appear in the courthouse.

Effective Monday, March 16th:

1. Marin County Superior Court has requested Emergency Orders from the Chief Justice consistent with California Government Code section 68115.
2. All Criminal time waived hearings, trials and matters will be continued for eight weeks out from the date the matter was originally scheduled.
3. All Traffic time waived matters will be continued for 60 days.
4. All Civil and Small Claims matters, hearings and trials scheduled in the next 90 days will be continued. Civil law and motion calendars will be at the discretion of the assigned judge.
5. In Family Law, all case progress conference (including the pro per) calendars will be continued 90 days.
6. DCSS calendars will also be rescheduled and continued.
7. All Probate matters will be rescheduled and continued.
8. Self-Help Office will physically be closed, but access to email and phones will be checked and answered.
9. Since March 4th, the court has increased our cleaning efforts in our high traffic public areas.
10. The court's jury office is closed and no jurors will be needed the week of March 16th.
11. For any needed court appearances, telephonic appearances are encouraged.

As mentioned above, non-essential jury trials will be rescheduled and continued. However, for the limited number of essential trials, the court is working with counsel and litigants to minimize the need to call in jurors, reduce the number of jurors summoned and comply with CDC and Marin County Public Health guidelines concerning safe distances and assemblies. The Court is also granting requests for deferrals and postponements remotely -- even for jurors who have previously made such a request -- for all potential jurors who are high risk or under medical or other business directives.

These continuances and strategies are intended to reduce the number of employees, jurors, parties and attorneys in the courthouse, consistent with Governor Gavin Newsom's Executive Order dated March 12, 2020 and guidelines issued Marin County's Health and Human Services, Public Health Department regarding limiting crowd sizes. The information can be found here: <https://www.marincounty.org/main/county-press-releases/press-releases/2020/hhs-covidgatherings-030920>

Furthermore, if you have flu-like symptoms (fever, cough, or shortness of breath), please contact your healthcare provider for details on how to proceed with proper medical care and testing. Please also follow the guidelines and options to avoid physically coming to the courthouse, based on the court's communication as of March 13th. Here is a direct link: <http://www.marincourt.org/data/hpnews/273.pdf>

We are slowing down our trial court operations in a reasonable and responsible way, while still providing services that protect our local community as well as respect public health, welfare and safety. During this time, the court is committed to ensuring access to justice while also promoting a safe environment for all court users and staff.

For the latest updates on Coronavirus/COVID-19-related impacts to Court operations, please consult the Court's home page at: <http://www.marincourt.org/>

Also for more specific information on COVID-19 and Marin County, please visit the Health and Human Services webpage at: <https://coronavirus.marinhhs.org/>