



The Superior Court  
COUNTY OF SAN JOAQUIN  
180 E. WEBER AVENUE  
STOCKTON, CALIFORNIA 95202

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE  
September 10, 2020

## **PUBLIC NOTICE** **COURT OPERATIONS UPDATE**

The Superior Court of California, County of San Joaquin (Court), with this, provides public notice, according to Government Code section 68106, of changes in court operations, in response to the spread of Coronavirus (COVID-19). These changes will be in effect until further notice.

To reduce the risk to the public, staff, and judicial officers, and to achieve maximum social distancing, entry into the courthouse will be limited to the following:

- Attorneys
- Parties/Defendants
- Minor/Minor's Parents
- Law Enforcement
- Those filing or picking up restraining orders
- Witnesses
- Couriers
- Jurors

**No other persons will be permitted without good cause.**

The Court will continue to take safety precautions to keep the public, court staff, judicial officers and others safe.

All persons who enter the courthouses will have their temperature taken by a temperature-scanning device. Any person who refuses to have their temperature taken, or has a temperature of 100.4 degrees or higher, will not be permitted to enter the courthouses. Per Governor Newsom's mandate, all persons must wear a face covering to enter the courthouse and at all times while inside.

**APPEALS:** Will be heard telephonically. Documents can be submitted by **drop box** or through the mail.

**BRANCH COURTS:** The Lodi Branch Court will remain closed until further notice.

Department M1 at the Manteca Branch Court is open. Department M2 will open on October 5, 2020.

**CLERKS OFFICES:** The Clerk's office at the Juvenile Justice Center is open. Clerks' Offices in Stockton, Manteca and Lodi are closed to the public. Clerk's Offices can be contacted as follows:

- **By Telephone:** To contact the Court by telephone, please visit the Court's website at [www.sjcourts.org](http://www.sjcourts.org) for current hours and contact information.
- **Support On-line:** Questions can be submitted via the support link on the Court's website at <https://www.sjcourts.org/online-services/support/>.

There are **drop boxes** outside of the Stockton Courthouse. For the Manteca Branch, a drop box is located within the building. **eFiling** is available for Civil, Family Law and Probate. Please visit <https://appfile.sjcourts.org/> for information.

### **THE COURTROOMS THAT ARE OPERATIONAL ARE LISTED BELOW.**

#### **CIVIL:**

Civil and Appeals documents to be submitted by **drop box, mail or eFiling**; eFiling is encouraged. Ex-parte hearings can be requested by email except for cases scheduled in Department 3A. Hearings in dedicated Civil courtrooms continue to be held telephonically. All Requests for Temporary Civil Restraining Orders submitted via drop window will be heard at the Stockton Courthouse.

Departments 10A, 10B, 10C, 10D and 11B will remain operational telephonically.

Department 10A Appellate calendars will be heard telephonically.

Department 3A Restraining Orders and Name Changes will be heard.

**UPDATE** Department 3A Small Claims hearings will resume on a limited basis beginning September 21, 2020, and will be rescheduled with notice to be mailed to the parties' addresses on file with the court.

**UPDATE** Department M2 Small Claims hearings will resume on a limited basis beginning October 8, 2020, and will be rescheduled with notice to be mailed to the parties' addresses on file with the court.

Departments 3B, 3D, and 6D Small Claims are not being heard until further notice in these departments.

**COLLABORATIVE COURTS:** Case conferences will be done telephonically.

**DEPENDENCY:** Departments 9C and 9D are open.

**CRIMINAL:**

Department 3A will be open for Criminal misdemeanors effective October 5, 2020.

Department 3C in-custody Domestic Violence (DV) matters will continue to be held and all misdemeanor out of custody DV matters will be heard beginning October 5, 2020.

Department 5C is open for Arraignments and further proceedings on Bench Warrants and Petitions for Violations of Probation, Community Supervision, Parole, and In Custody DUI arraignments. Out of Custody, DUI arraignments and Collaborative Court hearings will resume.

Department 6C is open.

Department 6D is open.

Department 7A is open.

Department 7B is open.

Department 7C is open.

Department 7D is open.

Department 8A is open.

Department 8B is open.

Department 8C is open.

Department 8D is open.

Department 9A is open.

Department 9B is open.

Department M1 is open.

**UPDATE** Department M2 will open on October 5, 2020.

**JURY SERVICES:** Our Jury Department has resumed full operations and jurors are now being called in for jury service. The Court is committed to providing a healthy and safe environment for jurors reporting for service and the Court is taking the precautionary measures to adhere to public safety and social distancing guidelines. For information regarding jury service including updated information regarding Covid-19 safety guidelines, please visit the Court's website. <https://www.sicourts.org/divisions/jury-service/> or call (209) 992-5500 for a Jury services staff member.

**FAMILY LAW:**

Family law documents must be submitted by drop box, mail, or [eFiling](#). Questions may be submitted via the support link on the Court's website at <https://www.sicourts.org/online-services/support/>.

Department 4A will hear all matters set on calendar. Hearings will be staggered in the morning to maintain social distancing.

Department 4B will continue to hear all matters set on calendar, including trials.

Department 5A will hear child support matters in person or by telephonic appearance, if requested. Long cause and contempt matters will be heard in person.

Mediations will be conducted in person with only the parties. Attorneys may videoconference in for mediations. The parties must wear masks for mediations while in the mediators' offices.

**JUVENILE JUSTICE CENTER:** Juvenile Traffic is suspended until further notice.

Department J1 is open.

Department J2 is closed.

Department J3 is open.

**PROBATE/DEPARTMENT 11A:** Probate will be open for the regular morning calendars, but it is encouraged that parties appear by teleconference rather than appear in person. Instructions and notice for the teleconference line can be found on local form Notice of Teleconferencing Appearance and Requirements (SJPR-EMERG1), located on our website under [local forms](#) at <https://www.sicourts.org/forms-filing/local-forms/>. Notice for teleconference appearance must be served with any Notice of Hearing or on its own in all matters.

Settlement conferences and trials are heard in person in the courtroom, teleconferencing is NOT allowed for these matters. In limited circumstances teleconference appearance may be

allowed for settlement conferences with specific court approval at least 72 hours *before* the settlement conference.

Probate documents to be submitted by **drop box, mail, or eFiling**; [eFiling](#) is encouraged. Faxed documents are no longer accepted unless specifically directed by the court.

Questions and inquiries can be submitted online at <https://www.sjcourts.org/divisions/probate/probate-inquiries/> or by email to [sjprobate@sjcourts.org](mailto:sjprobate@sjcourts.org).

**MENTAL HEALTH:** Department 6C calendar will continue remotely.

**UPDATE RECORDS MANAGEMENT:** Requests for copies are accepted by mail and through the online request at <https://www.sjcourts.org/online-services/records-request/>. Researchers are able to request an appointment to use a public kiosk for research. The general public can request an appointment to complete research. For more information on requesting copies or appointments see the Records Management Division web page at <https://www.sjcourts.org/divisions/records-management/>.

**TRAFFIC:** Traffic payments are accepted online or by mail only. Mandatory court appearances citations are set 120 days out. All Traffic hearings are continued until further notice. Walk-in calendars are suspended.

Department 3B is closed.

**SELF HELP:** The Self-Help Center is open to the public for in-person assistance by appointment only. Online assistance is available at [www.sjcourts.org/self-help/](http://www.sjcourts.org/self-help/) or by calling (209) 992-5283. For updates about hours of operation and other available self-help online services, visit the Court's website at [www.sjcourts.org](http://www.sjcourts.org).

**UPDATE SMALL CLAIMS:** Small Claims hearings will resume on a limited basis beginning September 21, 2020 in Stockton and October 8, 2020 in Manteca and will be rescheduled with notice to be mailed to the parties' addresses on file with the court.

**UPDATE UNLAWFUL DETAINERS:** With the passage of [AB 3088](#), beginning September 8, 2020, the Court will only accept commercial unlawful detainers filings. Unlawful Detainer hearings continue to be on hold pursuant to the new legislation. The Court anticipates significant filings and encourages use of our [eFiling](#) or drop boxes. Additional information will be available on the Court's website in the coming days. The public is encouraged to visit <https://landlordtenant.dre.ca.gov/index.html>, a website developed by the State of California to help navigate the new requirements.

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