

YUKEVICH | CAVANAUGH
CALIFORNIA COURT UPDATE

May 12, 2020

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Below is the status of each California federal and state court as of May 12, 2020. **Please contact James Yukevich if you have a question about the status of any case, anywhere.**

Also, you may find it helpful to visit the following website which has updated information on the status of all California state courts with links to all the courts' websites and COVID-19 orders: <https://support.onelegal.com/california-court-updates-covid-19>

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California Federal Courts

The **Central District of California's** COVID-19 order will remain in effect until at least June 1, 2020. All civil and criminal jury trials are continued until after June 1. All filing deadlines remain in place in all cases. All hearings in civil cases will be conducted by video or telephonic conference.

The **Southern District of California's** COVID-19 order will remain in effect until at least May 15, 2020. All civil and criminal jury trials are continued until after May 15. All pre-trial deadlines are continued until May 15. New pre-trial deadlines will be set in each case by the district judge. Holdings hearings, conferences, and bench trials is within the discretion of the district judge, who may conduct proceedings by telephone or video conferencing.

The **Northern District of California's** COVID-19 order remains in effect until at least June 1, 2020. No jury trials will be conducted before June 1, 2020. All civil matters will be decided on the papers. If the assigned judge believes a hearing is necessary, it will be conducted by telephone or video conference. This applies to motion hearings, case management conferences, pretrial conferences, settlement conferences, and ADR proceedings.

The **Eastern District of California's** COVID-19 order remains in effect until at least June 1, 2020. No civil or criminal jury trials will be held until June 15, 2020 at the earliest. Trials scheduled to begin before June 15 are continued.

All civil matters will be decided on the papers. If the assigned judge believes a hearing is necessary, it will be conducted by telephone or video conference. This applies to motion hearings, case management conferences, pretrial conferences, settlement conferences, and ADR proceedings.

California State Courts

The current status of the California Superior Courts differs depending on the county. Some courts are officially “closed” meaning no court business is taking place and all days are deemed to be “holidays” under the California Code of Civil Procedure. Some of the courts that have “closed” have set a date by which they currently plan to reopen. Others have not.

Other courts are “partially open,” meaning “non-essential” hearings are being delayed. These courts are open only to hear “essential matters.” While each court may differ, for the most part “essential matters” are civil ex parte applications on an “emergency” basis and requests for TROs or preliminary injunctions.

With respect to filing of documents, many courts allow electronic filing or “e-filing,” although there may be delays in receiving e-filing confirmations from the court. You should visit each court’s website to confirm the service and method of e-filing each court uses. Other courts have a drop box at the clerk’s office in which paper copies can be placed.

California State Courts by County

Alameda County is officially “closed” until May 29, 2020. The court is accepting only certain documents for fax, mail, or drop box filing. These include,

but are not limited to: ex parte applications for emergency relief; requests for preliminary injunctions and TROs; oppositions and replies for motions filed before March 17, 2020; notices of substitution or association of counsel; notices of settlement; notices of removal to federal court; and requests for dismissal.

Alpine County is “partially open” but all non-essential hearings have been delayed. Filings may be submitted to the clerk’s office drop box.

Amador County is “partially open” only for essential matters. Filings may be submitted to the clerk’s office drop box.

Butte County is “partially open” but all non-essential hearings have been delayed. The court accepts e-filing.

Calaveras County is “partially open.” The court accepts e-filing or paper filing in the clerk’s office drop box.

Colusa County is “partially open” but all non-essential hearings have been delayed. Filings may be submitted to the clerk’s office drop box.

Contra Costa County is officially “closed” until May 28, 2020. The civil department will resume a normal hearing schedule on May 28. Parties’ briefs for these hearings will be due under the normal statutory timeframes. This may mean a party must file a relevant brief before the expiration of the closure. Filings may be submitted to the clerk’s office drop box.

Del Norte County is officially “closed.” The court currently plans to reopen for “limited operations” on May 26. Civil hearings through May 22 will be held by Court Call. Filings may be submitted to the clerk’s office drop box.

El Dorado County is “partially open” but all non-essential hearings have been delayed. Filings may be submitted to the clerk’s office drop box.

Fresno County is open only for “time-sensitive, essential functions” including, for civil matters, ex parte applications and requests for preliminary injunctions and TROs. All other proceedings on calendar before May 29, 2020, are continued. The court “strongly” encourages all parties to use e-filing, but there is a drop box available outside the court house.

Glenn County is “partially open” but all non-essential hearings have been delayed. Filings may be submitted to the clerk’s office drop box.

Humboldt County is “partially open” but all non-essential hearings have been delayed. Filings may be submitted to the clerk’s office drop box.

Imperial County will remain “partially open” only for essential matters at least until May 17, 2020. These “essential matters” primarily involve family and juvenile restraining orders and ex parte applications. E-filing is being accepted for all case types through the court’s website.

Inyo County is “partially open” only for essential matters at least until May 14, 2020. Drop box filing is available only for emergency TROs.

Kern County is “partially open” only for essential matters. The court accepts e-filing.

Kings County is “partially open” only for essential matters. Filings may be submitted to the clerk’s office drop box.

Lake County is “partially open” only for essential matters at least until May 26, 2020. Drop box filing is available only for emergency TROs.

Lassen County is open and conducting civil hearings by CourtCall. Filings may be submitted to the clerk’s office drop box.

Los Angeles County is “partially open” only for essential matters including civil ex parte applications. All civil trials that were scheduled to start through May 12, 2020 are being continued to a date after June 22, 2020, and our office is seeing judges continuing, on their own motion, even trials that were set to start in July and August. E-filing is available for all civil matters and the court has a drop box at the clerk’s office at the Stanley Most Courthouse.

Marin County is “partially open” only for essential matters at least until May 26, 2020. Drop box filing is available only for emergency TROs.

Mariposa County is “closed.” The court accepts filings only by mail.

Mendocino County is “partially open” only for essential matters. Filings may be submitted to the clerk’s office drop box.

Merced County is “partially open” only for essential matters at least until May 12, 2020. The court accepts e-filing.

Modoc County is “partially open” and conducting civil hearings by CourtCall. Filings may be submitted to the clerk’s office drop box.

Mono County is “partially open” and conducting civil hearings by CourtCall. Filings may be submitted to the clerk’s office drop box.

Monterey County is “partially open” only for essential matters. The court accepts e-filing.

Napa County is “partially open” only for essential matters at least until May 29, 2020. The court accepts e-filing.

Nevada County is “partially open” only for essential matters at least until May 15, 2020. Filings may be submitted to the clerk’s office drop box.

Orange County is “partially open” only for essential matters at least until May 22, 2020. Essential matters are limited to emergency civil temporary injunctions and oppositions to claims of exemption. Trials that were scheduled to begin as of or after March 17, 2020 are being continued approximately 25 weeks. Civil hearings are being continued approximately 13 weeks. Civil hearings are currently scheduled to resume the week of June 15, 2020.

Placer County is resuming civil hearings and case management conferences starting May 11, 2020 via Court Call only. Civil trials set to begin before May 31,

2020 will be continued approximately eight weeks, to be determined by the assigned judge. E-filing and delivery can be made through the court's website.

Plumas County is “partially open” only for essential matters at least until May 18, 2020. Filings may be submitted to the clerk's office drop box.

Riverside County is “closed” at least until May 15, 2020. The court is only conducting proceedings on emergency and essential matters, including civil harassment TROs and ex parte applications. All other civil trials and hearings are being continued. Parties may submit documents to the court electronically using the court website. However only papers relating to emergency and essential matters will be filed. All other documents will be processed after the court reopens.

Sacramento County is currently accepting filings for all civil matters. Parties are encouraged to file by mail, but drop box filing is also available. Civil motion hearings will resume telephonically on June 1, 2020. Parties may request hearing dates by telephoning or e-mailing the assigned department. The court does not yet have a timetable for resuming civil trials.

San Benito County is “partially open” only for essential matters. Filings may be submitted to the clerk's office drop box.

San Bernardino County is “closed” through May 28, 2020. The court is hearing certain matters, including civil harassment with violence and civil ex parte

applications where the parties appear by Court Call. For essential matters, papers can be filed by fax or at the clerk's office drop box. Civil trials that were scheduled to start before May 24, 2020 will be continued 90 days.

San Diego County is "closed" until at least May 22, 2020. The court is hearing certain "emergency" matters including civil harassment restraining orders and emergency ex parte applications. Electronic and in person filings are suspended. Documents may still be e-filed but they will be placed in a queue and not processed until after the court reopens. Only emergency TROs may be filed by drop box. Civil trials will be continued to dates to be determined.

San Francisco County is "partially open" to hear only essential matters. Civil filings can be e-filed. New civil case filings may be submitted by drop box. The court has extended deadlines to answer, demur, move to quash, or move to strike in civil cases to June 1, 2020. The court has also extended to June 1 the time to respond to discovery or bring a discovery motion. We recommend you review the court's General Order dated April 30, 2020. All civil trial dates scheduled before June 1 have been vacated and will be continued 60 days.

San Joaquin County is "partially open" for essential matters only at least until May 27, 2020. Filings, with the exception of emergency TROs, will not be processed until the court reopens.

San Luis Obispo County is “partially open” only for essential matters at least until June 5, 2020. The court accepts e-filing.

San Mateo County is “partially open” only for essential matters at least until May 14, 2020. The court accepts e-filing.

Santa Barbara County is “partially open” only for essential matters at least until May 23, 2020. The court accepts e-filing.

Santa Clara County is “partially open” only for essential matters at least until May 29, 2020. The court accepts e-filing.

Santa Cruz County is “partially open” only for essential matters. The court accepts e-filing.

Shasta County is “partially open” only for essential matters. Filings may be submitted to the clerk’s office drop box.

Sierra County is “partially open” only for essential matters. Filings may be submitted to the clerk’s office drop box.

Siskiyou County is “partially open.” The court is currently hearing civil matters on calendar, and all parties are encouraged to appear by Court Call. Civil jury trial dates between April 20 and May 29, 2020 are vacated and will be reset by the court. Parties have been instructed to contact the court directly about filing procedures.

Solano County is “partially open” only for essential matters at least through May 28, 2020. Filings may be submitted to the clerk’s office drop box.

Sonoma County is “closed,” although limited proceedings on “emergency” matters are taking place. The court is accepting e-filing.

Stanislaus County is “partially open” for essential matters at least until May 18, 2020. The court is accepting e-filing.

Sutter County is “partially open” for essential matters only. The court is accepting e-filing.

Tehama County is “partially open” for essential matters only until at least May 29, 2020. Filings may be submitted to the clerk’s office drop box.

Trinity County is “closed” although limited proceedings on “emergency” matters are taking place. Parties have been instructed to contact the court directly about filing procedures.

Tulare County is “partially open” for essential matters only until at least May 13, 2020. Filings may be submitted to the clerk’s office drop box.

Tuolumne County is open and is currently holding civil hearings, with all parties encouraged to appear by Court Call. The clerk’s office window is accepting filings.

Ventura County is “closed” although limited proceedings on “emergency” matters are taking place. Parties have been instructed to contact the court directly about filing procedures.

Yolo County is “closed” although limited proceedings on “emergency” matters are taking place. All filings are to be submitted by mail.

Yuba County is “closed” although limited proceedings on “emergency” matters are taking place. The court is accepting e-filing.