

April 29, 2021

TO: All Interested Parties
FROM: Leland Davis, III, Presiding Judge
Elizabeth K. Lee, Assistant Presiding Judge
RE: Fifteenth Court Emergency Response **Calendar Memo Order** to Novel Coronavirus Pandemic

The Court, in its continuing efforts to protect the public and all those who might have a reason to enter our courthouse during this ever-concerning COVID-19 crisis, reissues and extends its March 12, 2021 Fourteenth Court Emergency Response Calendar Memo Order to do the following:

- Curtail court calendars, but safely hear certain court calendars that had been closed.
- Suspend all civil jury trials through July 2, 2021.
- Suspend all LPS and long-cause Probate trials through July 2, 2021.

The Presiding Judge retains the discretion to authorize the hearing of any civil jury trials, LPS trials and long-cause Probate trials which, in the interest of justice, the Presiding Judge determines should be heard.

This Order suspending trials does not apply to family law or juvenile cases. For family law cases, please see the latest family law memo, titled “Family Law COVID-19 Protocols and FAQs”, updated January 26, 2021, which can be accessed on the court’s website at www.sanmateocourt.org. For juvenile cases, please see the most recent juvenile memo, titled “Juvenile Dependency and Juvenile Justice Memo #7”, dated November 3, 2020, which can also be accessed on the court’s website.

With this Order, this Court reestablishes the following changes through July 2, 2021.

Calendars that are deemed essential and mandated and will be heard:

- Effective February 5, 2021, the Court began hearing all criminal jury trials.
- All matters set on the Criminal Presiding Judge’s calendars will be heard. Zoom appearances will be allowed and are strongly encouraged.
- Preliminary Hearing calendars
 - Out-of-custody Northern jurisdiction preliminary hearings which are estimated to take no longer than three hours will continue to be heard in South San Francisco.
- In-Custody Arraignment calendars (Monday – Friday at 1:30 P.M.). Zoom appearances will be allowed.
 - Effective through July 2, 2021, out-of-custody Domestic Violence Arraignments may continue to be heard on the 1:30 P.M. Northern/Southern In-Custody Arraignment calendars (limit is 5 DV Arraignments per calendar (Northern and

Southern) for a total of 10 DV Arraignments per day). Out-of-custody defendants must appear in person.

- Out-of-Custody Misdemeanor Arraignment calendars (Monday – Thursday at 8:30 and 10:30 A.M.)
- Bail motions for people who are in custody
- Parole Hearings (PRCS calendar) (Fridays at 1:30 P.M.). Zoom appearances will be allowed.
- All matters set on the Probate calendar (Monday – Friday at 9:00 A.M.) will be heard. (*Please note:* Thursday morning sessions have been added temporarily. Some Probate calendars have been canceled pursuant to COVID-19 Order Number 20, which can be accessed on the Court’s website.) The Court waives the in-person appearance of all conservators, conservatees, prospective conservators and prospective conservatees.
 - Zoom appearances, instead of CourtCall, will be allowed on the Probate calendar. Zoom credentials for the Probate calendar can be found on the Court’s website at www.sanmateocourt.org on the Probate Division page.
- Probate ex partes (Monday – Friday from 10:00 A.M. – 11:00 A.M.) (*Please note:* Some Probate ex parte calendars have been canceled pursuant to COVID-19 Order Number 20, which can be accessed on the court’s website.)
- LPS calendar (Tuesdays at 11:00 A.M.). Zoom appearances will be allowed.
- Presiding Judge Master Calendar: All hearings on the Master Calendar will be continued, except the Presiding Judge will consider hearing conditional examinations, motions to suppress evidence and motions in time-not-waived criminal cases with prior approval. The Presiding Judge will also hear petitions for name change if the petitioner appears in person on the day of hearing. The Court will also hear Disability/Minor’s Compromise petitions, either in person or by Zoom audio. The Presiding Judge retains the discretion to hear any matters which, in the interest of justice, the Presiding Judge determines should be heard. Zoom audio appearances, instead of CourtCall, will be allowed (Zoom credentials for the Master Calendar are listed on the court’s website at www.sanmateocourt.org).
- Restraining order hearings off of Master Calendar: All temporary restraining orders and gun violence restraining orders scheduled for hearing between April 29, 2021 and July 2, 2021 will be reissued, and the hearings will be continued to a new date if the petitioner appears on the day of hearing. Appearances may be made by Zoom audio. The Presiding Judge retains the discretion to hear these matters if the parties personally appear and if, in the interest of justice, the Presiding Judge determines they should be heard
- Presiding Judge ex partes (Monday – Friday from 2:00 – 2:15 P.M.): The Presiding Judge will consider temporary restraining order requests and eviction stays only.
- All matters set on the Family Law Support (DCSS) calendar (Wednesdays at 9:00 A.M. and Thursdays at 2:00 P.M.) will be heard. Zoom appearances will be allowed.
- Family Law DVPA/TRO Hearings: Family Law DVPA/TRO Hearing (long cause) calendars are heard at both the Northern Branch in South San Francisco and the Southern Branch in Redwood City. The 8:30 A.M. Family Law DVPA/TRO (short cause)

calendars are all heard at the Southern Branch in Redwood City. Zoom appearances for restraining order hearings will be allowed only if the parties have stipulated in advance of the hearing date to resolution or continuance of the hearing.

- For additional information related to Family Law DVPA/TRO Hearings, please refer to the “Announcement re: DVPA/TRO Calendar Change,” which may be accessed on the Family Law page of the court’s website at www.sanmateocourt.org.

- Out-of-custody Misdemeanor Pretrial Conference calendars will be heard. Zoom appearances will be allowed and are strongly encouraged. (*Please note:* Out-of-Custody Misdemeanor Pretrial Conference calendars are heard at both the Northern Branch in South San Francisco and the Southern Branch in Redwood City.)
- In-Custody Misdemeanor Pretrial Conference calendars (Thursdays & Fridays at 8:30 A.M. in Redwood City). (*Please note:* Through July 2, 2021, any matter previously set on the 1:30 P.M. Domestic Violence Pretrial Conference calendar will be advanced and heard on the 8:30 A.M. Thursday or Friday In-Custody Misdemeanor Pretrial Conference calendar (depending on jurisdiction). Zoom appearances will be allowed.
- Misdemeanor Modification calendar (Tuesdays at 9:00 A.M. and 2:00 P.M.). Zoom appearances will be allowed and are strongly encouraged.
- DUI Court calendar (Tuesdays at 9:00 A.M.). Only cases involving high-risk defendants or those who have tested positive for alcohol and/or drugs will require an in-person appearance of the probationer. The Probation Department will notify the Court which defendants fit this category. All other probationers must appear by Zoom.
- Veterans Court calendar (generally the first Thursday of the month at 10:00 A.M.). Zoom appearances only.
- Military Diversion calendar (generally the third Thursday of the month at 10:00 A.M.). Zoom appearances only.
- From May 3 through June 30, 2021, Drug Court/Treatment Court calendars will be heard on Fridays at 8:30 A.M. Beginning July 1, 2021, Drug Court/Treatment Court calendars will be heard on the first and third Fridays of each month at 8:30 A.M.
- Beginning May 7, 2021, the Friday Probation Violation Conference calendar will be heard at 9:00 A.M. Zoom appearances will be allowed.
- Beginning May 7, 2021, the Pathways calendar will be heard on Fridays at 9:00 A.M. Zoom appearances will be allowed.
- Beginning May 7, 2021, the PC 1370 calendar will be heard on Fridays at 10:30 A.M. Zoom appearances will be allowed.
- Beginning May 7, 2021, the Mental Health Diversion calendar will be heard on Fridays at 10:30 A.M. Zoom appearances will be allowed.
- Beginning May 7, 2021, the Restitution Court calendar will generally be heard on the first Friday of each month at 1:30 P.M. Zoom appearances will be allowed.
- Military Personnel – Veterans Resentencing Hearing calendar (generally the last Friday of the month at 2:00 P.M.). Zoom appearances only.

- Unlawful Detainer Pretrial Conference calendar (Tuesdays at 8:30 A.M.). Zoom appearances will be allowed and are strongly encouraged. (*Please note:* Effective January 5, 2021, the Unlawful Detainer Pretrial Conference calendar will be heard at the Northern Branch in South San Francisco.)
- Appellate Calendar (generally the second Friday of the month at 2:00 P.M.). Zoom appearances only.
- Civil Direct calendars. (*Please note:* No Law and Motion ex parte matters will be heard.)

Calendars that will be continued:

- Domestic Violence Pretrial Conference calendar (Thursdays at 1:30 P.M.). (*Please note:* Through July 2, 2021, any matter previously set on the 1:30 P.M. Domestic Violence Pretrial Conference calendar will be advanced and heard on the 8:30 A.M. Thursday or Friday In-Custody Misdemeanor Pretrial Conference calendar (depending on jurisdiction).)
- Domestic Violence Review calendar (Thursdays at 8:30 A.M.)
- Prop. 63 Noncompliance calendar (third Wednesday of the month at 8:30 A.M.)
- Night Court calendar (first Wednesday of the month at 5:30 P.M.)
- Traffic Arraignments (Wednesdays and Fridays at 8:30 A.M.)
- Traffic Court Trials (Tuesdays and Thursdays at 1:30 P.M.)
- Small Claims calendar (Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays at 1:30 P.M.)
- Small Claims Appeals (scheduled on the 9:00 A.M. Presiding Judge Master Calendar in Redwood City).

Staff will notice the parties of all continuances or rescheduling of hearings.

Effective January 4, 2021, the court transitioned to a Civil Direct Calendar system. Staff is still in the process of rescheduling civil matters and assigning civil cases to the Civil judges listed in the Assignment Orders, filed October 15, 2020 and January 12, 2021, and posted on the court's website at www.sanmateocourt.org.

The reduction of these calendars, as well as suspension of LPS and civil jury trials, will allow the court to operate with fewer staff and, therefore, reduce social interaction with the public. Court management has implemented a plan for limiting staff presence at the courthouse to only those essential to maintain the operation of the calendars listed above.

Clerk's Offices

Due to the increase in COVID-19 cases, the Redwood City and South San Francisco Clerk's Offices are closed to the public. Exceptions: The Redwood City Clerk's Offices will continue to process emergency ex parte matters, domestic violence, elder/dependent adult abuse and civil temporary restraining order petitions and civil ex parte matters. The Clerk's Offices' drop boxes are open for permitted filings.

We thank you for your patience, cooperation and understanding as we attempt to safely work our way through this COVID-19 pandemic.