

## **Impact of Covid 19 on Civil Courts & Jury Trials in Alameda and Contra Costa Counties**

1.5 hours General

### **OCTOBER 20, 2020 PANEL HOSTED BY ACBA AND CCBA**

#### **Statewide Emergency Rules Related to COVID-19**

<http://cc-courts.org/local-rules/docs/StatewideEmergencyRulesCompleteAmended.pdf>

### **ALAMEDA SUPERIOR COURT**

#### **General Information re Covid-19 & Civil Operations**

<http://www.alameda.courts.ca.gov/Pages.aspx/COVID-19>

#### **Civil**

With the exception of papers relating to appeals and unlawful detainer cases, the Court is now accepting all filings—including case-initiating documents—via mail, drop box, and fax filing. See [Emergency Local Rule 1.8a](#) and [Local Rule 3.30](#) for details.

Beginning April 20, 2020, the Court resumed a limited number of Civil hearings regarding emergency matters and matters that were filed and scheduled before the March 17, 2020 Court closure. These hearings will be conducted remotely via telephone or videoconference. The Court will notify parties or their counsel in cases that are being set for hearing the week before the anticipated hearing date.

Additional information about Civil matters during the public closure period can be found in this [Civil, Family and Probate Closure FAQ](#).

#### **Instructions on Remote Appearances**

On Bluejeans:

<http://www.alameda.courts.ca.gov/Pages.aspx/Remote-Appearances-BlueJeans->

On Zoom:

<http://www.alameda.courts.ca.gov/Pages.aspx/Remote-Appearances-Zoom->

#### **Press Releases re Covid-19 and Alameda Superior Court**

Found at <http://www.alameda.courts.ca.gov/Pages.aspx/COVID-19>

## COVID-19

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Superior Court of California, County of Alameda

### Updates and Information Regarding Novel Coronavirus 2019 (COVID-19)

The Superior Court of California, County of Alameda (Court) is closely monitoring the Novel Coronavirus 2019 (COVID-19) situation. The Court is in routine communication with the Alameda County Public Health Department, the Alameda County Office of Emergency Services, other Alameda County justice agencies, other California Superior Courts, and the Judicial Council of California. We are working with these and other entities to ensure that we have up-to-date information and can best weigh the need to provide access to justice to our community while also supporting the activities of our public health agencies and the health of the public.

**\*\*\*UPDATE October 2, 2020\*\*\*** The Court has issued a [Press Release](#) announcing that, despite being generally closed to the public except for limited public records searches, the Rene C. Davidson Courthouse (RCD), located at 1225 Fallon Street in Oakland, will be open for in-person voting beginning Monday, October 5, 2020.

- **August 14, 2020** - The Court has issued a [Press Release](#) announcing the extension of unlawful detainer stay and adopts emergency Local Rule amendments.
- **July 10, 2020** - The Court has issued a [Press Release](#) announcing extension of unlawful detainer stay and clarifies acceptable unlawful detainer filings; amends Family and Probate emergency Local Rules; and updates Civil, Family, Probate, and Criminal FAQs.
- **July 8, 2020** - The Court has issued a [Press Release](#) announcing staff furlough days to address Fiscal Year 2020-21 budget reductions.
- **June 16, 2020** - The Court has issued a [Press Release](#) announcing the adoption of emergency “zero bail” schedule and additional amendments to emergency Local Rules.
- **June 12, 2020** - The Court has issued a [Press Release](#) detailing its opening of appellate and limited emergency unlawful detainer filings, otherwise extends unlawful detainer stay, and requires email addresses on all filings.
- **June 5, 2020** - The Court has issued a [Press Release](#) announcing resumption of Jury Trials.
- **June 1, 2020** - The Court has issued a [Press Release](#) detailing its extension of Emergency Order and issues further Implementation Order.
- **May 28, 2020** - The Court has issued a [Press Release](#) announcing resumption of in-person traffic trials, increases remote traffic trial opportunities, and extends unlawful detainer stay.
- **May 20, 2020** - The Court has issued a [Press Release](#) announcing remote “reopening.”
- **May 15, 2020** - The Court has issued a [Press Release](#) announcing that it will resume accepting reservations for and setting hearings on most motions, beginning May 18, and detailing remote appearance options in conservatorships
- **May 7, 2020** - The Court has issued a [Press Release](#) announces plan to “re-open” civil filings, including new complaints.
- **May 1, 2020** - The Court has issued a [Press Release](#) announcing a new implementation order in response to an emergency order granted by the Chief Justice, and the extension of the Court’s public closure through May 29, 2020.
- **April 29, 2020** - The Court has issued a [Press Release](#) announcing that it has expanded filings and hearings in civil, family, and probate matters, publishes updated FAQ, and prepares to seek additional Emergency Order in anticipation of extending public closure.
- **April 24, 2020** - The Court has issued a [Press Release](#) announcing that it has expanded the types of documents that can be filed by fax, drop box, and mail.

- **April 23, 2020** - The Court has issued a [Press Release](#) detailing the launch of remote public and media access to court proceedings.
- **April 22, 2020** - The Court has issued a [Press Release](#) detailing the enactment of new emergency Local Rule and Local Rule amendments to facilitate the resumption of Court services during the COVID-19 crisis, posts traffic court FAQ and begins accepting some traffic documents via drop box.
- **April 17, 2020** - The Court has issued a [Press Release](#) regarding its offer of relief to litigants in traffic cases, and provides alternatives to litigants in time-not-waived traffic trials.
- **April 16, 2020** - The Court has issued a [Press Release](#) regarding the resumption of limited hearings in Civil, Family, and Probate matters, issues related Emergency Local Rules and FAQs, permits limited public courthouse access, and orders additional jail releases.
- **April 13, 2020** - The Court has issued a [Press Release](#) ordering the release of 56 additional persons from the Santa Rita Jail.
- **April 10, 2020** - The Court has issued a [Press Release](#) announcing new Emergency Local Rules, the opening of limited emergency Civil, Family, and Probate fax filing opportunities, and the tentative start of limited emergency hearings the week of April 20, 2020. The Court also orders release of additional persons from Santa Rita Jail.
- **April 8, 2020** - The Court has issued a [Press Release](#) detailing its adoption of the Emergency Bail Schedule as directed by the Judicial Council of California, along with new local form to facilitate remote criminal court appearances.
- **April 3, 2020** - The Court received a second [Emergency Order](#) from the Chair of the Judicial Council of California and has issued a [Press Release](#) regarding its implementation of that Order, its adoption of a new local rule, and its excusal of prospective jurors from service.
- **April 2, 2020** - The Court has issued a [Press Release](#) detailing its extension of the public closure period and requests extension of emergency relief, enacts emergency bail schedule, and extends stay of unlawful detainer actions.
- **April 2, 2020** - The Court has adopted new [Local Rule 4.115, Emergency Rule Adopting Temporary Emergency Bail Schedule](#), to address the impact of the COVID-19 pandemic, pursuant to the March 23, 2020, Statewide Order of the Chief Justice.
- **March 27, 2020** - The Court has issued a [Press Release](#) regarding its expansion of remote services during the COVID-19 public closure period.
- **March 25, 2020** - The Court has issued a [Press Release](#) regarding the resumption of Self-Help telephone service, two additional Orders, dated [March 20, 2020](#) and [March 25, 2020](#), releasing persons from custody, and the continuance of trials in accord with the March 23, 2020, Statewide Order of the Chief Justice.
- **March 19, 2020** - The Court has issued a [Press Release](#) regarding the Presiding Judge's [General Order](#) releasing 247 persons from the Santa Rita Jail in light of the COVID-19 pandemic. The Press Release also refers to the new information added below, which details the impact of the current public closures on specific Court divisions and offices.
- **March 17, 2020** - The Court received an [Emergency Order](#) from the Chair of the Judicial Council of California and has issued a [Press Release](#) providing additional details regarding services that are impacted pursuant to the authority conferred by that Order.
- **March 16, 2020** - The Court has issued a [Press Release](#) detailing its closure of all courthouses in support of the "Shelter in Place" Orders issued by Bay Area public health officials.
- **March 14, 2020** - The Court has issued a [Press Release](#) detailing its plan to mitigate the spread of COVID-19.

## CONTRA COSTA SUPERIOR COURT

### GENERAL INFORMATION

The following general information is found at <http://cc-courts.org/default.aspx> and by going to that page you can link to the tabs in the below summary:

#### **EMERGENCY LOCAL RULES**

**IMPORTANT:** The Court has issued new Emergency Rules due to COVID-19 that affect all cases and will likely issue more Emergency Rules in the weeks to come. All Emergency Rules are located on the [Court's Local Rules Page](#)

#### **CORONAVIRUS (COVID-19) NOTICES**

[PRESS RELEASE – UNLAWFUL DETAINER CASES](#)

[COMUNICADO URGENTE – CASOS DE RETENCIÓN ILÍCITA DE INMUEBLE](#)

#### **ORDERS IMPLEMENTING EMERGENCY RELIEF (Currently Operative)**

[SEPTEMBER 28, 2020](#) (Juvenile)

[SEPTEMBER 11, 2020](#) (Criminal Trials)

See the [Orders Page](#) for previous Implementation Orders.

#### **STATEWIDE ORDERS OF THE CHIEF JUSTICE**

See the [Orders Page](#) for the Chief Justice's Orders.

For Court calendars, please visit our Court Calendars webpage: [Contra Costa Court Calendars](#)

*\* For Civil Hearings, please visit our [Civil Department](#) webpage for more information.*

*\* For Criminal Hearings, please visit our [Criminal Audio Room](#) to listen to the Criminal Court Proceedings.*

**\*\*\*\*\* ALL COURT LOCATIONS ARE NOW OPEN TO THE PUBLIC \*\*\*\*\***

- **IF YOU ARE SICK, DO NOT COME TO THE COURT.** NO ONE WHO IS SICK OR WHO IS EXHIBITING COVID-19 SYMPTOMS WILL BE PERMITTED TO ENTER ANY COURT FACILITY.
- **YOU MUST WEAR A MASK OR FACE COVERING** TO ENTER ANY COURT FACILITY AND AT ALL TIMES WHILE INSIDE.
- THE ABOVE INCLUDES THOSE WHO HAVE BEEN REQUESTED FOR JURY DUTY.
- **PLEASE EXPECT LONG LINES AND LONG WAIT TIMES.** THE COURT WILL FOLLOW SOCIAL DISTANCING REQUIREMENTS AND BUILDING ACCESS WILL BE LIMITED. PLEASE OBEY ALL SIGNS. YOUR PATIENCE IS APPRECIATED.
- CLERK'S OFFICES ARE OPEN **8:00 A.M. – 3:00 P.M.** ( WITH TRAFFIC WINDOWS OPEN UNTIL **4:00 P.M.** ). PHONE HOURS ARE **10:00 A.M. - 2:00 P.M.**

**FIFTH AMENDED EMERGENCY LOCAL RULES – CIVIL – effective 7/29/2020**

**FIFTH AMENDED EMERGENCY LOCAL RULES - CIVIL - EFFECTIVE JULY 29TH, 2020**

**NOTE: These Amended Civil Emergency Rules require the parties to provide notice in specific circumstances in Civil cases. Please review these Rules carefully, as they may require you to review the Court website and notice other parties of new hearing dates.**

**Beginning May 18, 2020, and until further notice, hearings in limited and unlimited Civil cases will be held via CourtCall. Please use our Open Access system to review court calendars.**

**Members of the public and media may access hearings on a MUTED line by calling (855) 855-8556 and entering the appropriate access code below:**

Judge	Dept.	Press/Public Code
Hon. Treat	12	8653650#
Hon. Fannin	21	9970032#
Hon. Burch	23	3547754#
Hon. Austin	33	8822896#
Hon. Weil	39	4161037#

**\* PARTIES/COUNSEL SHOULD NOT USE THE ABOVE LINES, AS THEY ARE MUTED. INSTEAD, SCHEDULE A REGULAR COURTCALL APPEARANCE. INSTRUCTIONS FOR COURTCALL ARE AVAILABLE [HERE](#).**

**\* RECORDING OF HEARINGS IS PROHIBITED WITHOUT PRIOR COURT APPROVAL.**

**SIXTH AMENDED EMERGENCY LOCAL RULES – CIVIL – effective 9/2/2020**

<http://cc-courts.org/local-rules/docs/AmendedEmergencyLocalRules-Civil.pdf>

**EMERGENCY LOCAL RULES: COMPLEX CIVIL – effective 5/11/2020**

<http://cc-courts.org/local-rules/docs/EmergencyLocalRules-ComplexCivil.pdf>