

1 and enabled by order of California Supreme Court Justice Tani Cantil-Sakuye, hereby makes
2 the following Order regarding the children who are subject to the jurisdiction of the juvenile court
3 and who are in out-of-home placement, effective immediately upon its issuance, such Order to
4 expire at 12 midnight on Friday, April 30, 2020, subject to renewal according to officially
5 recognized ongoing public health emergency:

6 **In-person reasonable supervised visitation and unsupervised visitation between**
7 **all foster children and their parents or guardians or other family members that has to**
8 **date been ordered by a sitting judicial officer of this County is hereby suspended. In its**
9 **place, the Department is directed to facilitate all practical and reasonable means to**
10 **continue communication between parent and child, to include letter and gift exchange**
11 **and reasonable, supervised telephonic and electronic visitation, including “Skype” and**
12 **“FaceTime” visitation.**

13 This order shall not affect any other form of visitation afforded parents and children, to
14 wit: so-called “liberal” and “extended” visitation, as these forms of visitation do not of necessity
15 involve massed gatherings or people in a public place. The Department is herein authorized to
16 place such reasonable limitations upon these other forms of visitation as may be necessary to
17 ensure the health and safety of foster children and the public at large. For example, visitation
18 may be conditioned up limiting parents’ ability to take children out in public where 10 or more
19 people may gather in a confined or physically proximate space and may direct parents to insist
20 on ‘social distancing’ of a minimum of 6’ between children and all others but parents. If the
21 Department is of the belief that parents in any individual circumstance are incapable of following
22 such reasonable directives and limitations, the Department is authorized to cease such visitation
23 and revert, during the time of the Emergency only, to the remote forms of visitation described
24 above.

25 In carrying out this order and exercising the remaining visitation discretion given to the

1 Department, the Court directs the Department to reference the March 21, 2020 "All County
2 Letter", particularly, p. 9 of 17 of that letter, for guidance in carrying out that visitation. Particular
3 consideration is to be given to maintaining the bond between parents and children under the
4 age of 3, exploring all reasonable alternative forms of communication, to enhancing the
5 frequency of telephonic and electronic and social media communication beyond one or two
6 times per week, to advance those parents doing well on liberal visitation to extended visitation,
7 and any and all other appropriate measures to maximize reunification potential of all families
8 and maintain bond between all children and their respective parents.

9 This Order is not intended to replace, nullify, or conflict with any existing policies of the
10 Department or any other public or private agency.

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13 IT IS SO ORDERED:

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16 DATED: 3-25-20

17 BY: 

18 HON. BRIAN M. ARAX
19 JUDGE, FRESNO COUNTY SUPERIOR COURT
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