

SUPERIOR COURT OF CALIFORNIA, COUNTY OF FRESNO
CENTRAL DIVISION

ORDER OF THE PRESIDING JUDGE RE )
CIVIL HEARING AND TRIAL DATES )
DUE TO COVID-19 PANDEMIC )

GENERAL ORDER

Due to the health concerns presented by the coronavirus and its associated disease COVID-19, and the Emergency Order of the Presiding Judge of the Fresno Superior Court and the Statewide Order of the Chief Justice of California.

THIS COURT HEREBY AUTHORIZES THE FOLLOWING:

With very limited exceptions as set out in the Order from Presiding Judge dated May 1, 2020, and posted on the Court's website, civil matters will not be heard from May 4, 2020, until June 18, 2020, with the exception of <a href="Trial Setting Conferences">Trial Setting Conferences</a> described below.

All clerk's offices in the B.F. Sisk Courthouse will be closed. Mandatory efiling remains in place. Parties shall continue to electronically file documents. Documents will be processed according to priority based on staff availability. Parties who are

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not required to efile are strongly encouraged to voluntarily do so to minimize the health risks associated with traveling to the Court. A drop box has been located outside the B.F. Sisk Courthouse and will be available for filing papers Monday through Friday from 8:00 a.m. until 4:00 p.m.

All civil unlimited mandatory settlement conferences, trial readiness hearings and trials (jury and court) scheduled to occur from Monday, March 23, 2020, through Thursday, June 18, 2020, inclusive, will be rescheduled to occur on later dates in 2020 and 2021. All of these cases are being re-noticed for Trial Setting Conferences to be held in Department 502 on Monday, June 8, 2020, and Tuesday, June 9, 2020. Appearance by CourtCall is strongly encouraged. The new settlement conference, trial readiness, and trial dates will be assigned at that time based upon a case-bycase assessment. All deadlines which are dictated by the trial date will be based upon the continued new trial date, including but not limited to, Discovery Act cutoffs and summary judgment/summary adjudication cut offs.

All Case Management Conferences scheduled to occur from March 23, 2020, through June 19, 2020, inclusive, will be continued. Notices of the new date will be sent in each case. Please also check Odyssey for information on your case.

Civil Law and Motion matters will be continued. Law and Motion hearings will resume after June 19, 2020. Notices will be sent regarding specific hearing dates and times. Please also check Odyssey for information on your case. Appearances for oral argument shall be via CourtCall until further notice. The Court will post amendments to the Local Rules regarding tentative

rulings and oral argument. New dates will not be provided for petitions for compromise set from March 23, 2020 through June 19, 2020, inclusive. Parties with a petition for compromise set should continue to file the petitions and orders. Judges will review these matters and issue rulings. Rulings will be served via mail on the parties and will be entered into Odyssey. Please also check Odyssey for information on your case.

A process may be available for remote settlement conferences with judicial officers. Please check the Court's website for updates. Local Rule 4.1.9 regarding ex parte communications with judicial officers is suspended until further notice.

Ex parte requests will be addressed on a case-by-case basis. The Court will review ex parte requests to determine if an emergency exists. If the Court determines that the ex parte request involves a true emergency the Court will authorize the hearing to go forward via CourtCall.

Fresno Superior Court Local Rule 2.1.17 was amended April 6, 2020. The amended rule is posted on the Court's website.

THIS ORDER IS EFFECTIVE IMMEDIATELY.

DATED this 30 1th day of April, 2020.

HONORABLE ARLAN L. HARRELL PRESIDING JUDGE, FRESNO SUPERIOR COURT