

Michael Carrozzo
Presiding Judge



Darrel E. Parker
Court Executive Officer

SUPERIOR COURT OF CALIFORNIA, COUNTY OF SANTA BARBARA
1100 ANACAPA STREET, SANTA BARBARA, CA 93101

March 18, 2020

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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IMPLEMENTATION OF ADDITIONAL SERVICE REDUCTIONS. **CLERK'S OFFICES CLOSED EFFECTIVE MARCH 19, 2020** **THROUGH MARCH 27, 2020 DUE TO COVID-19**

On March 12, 2020, Governor Gavin Newsom declared a State of Emergency and the Santa Barbara County Public Health Department declared a public health emergency due to the COVID-19 pandemic.

In an effort to help control the spread of COVID-19, the Santa Barbara County Superior Court is taking further steps to minimize the public's potential exposure to COVID-19 by reducing the number of people required to come to the courthouse. In addition to the closures previously announced, the court is closing public access to the Superior Court clerk's offices in all courthouse locations effective March 19, 2020 through March 27, 2020.

The clerk's offices will continue to accept electronic filings in civil, family, and probate cases. Electronic filing is available at www.sbcourts.org. Self-represented parties are encouraged to e-file, but may submit filings at most court locations by using the designated drop boxes.

Previously, Presiding Judge Michael Carrozzo took the extraordinary measure of ordering almost all courtrooms closed and all matters calendared between March 17 and April 3, 2020 to be rescheduled. Only in-custody criminal arraignments are being conducted in Santa Maria and Santa Barbara. One courtroom in Santa Barbara and one courtroom in Santa Maria will address emergency orders.

Temporary Restraining orders that would otherwise expire between March 17, 2020 and April 15, 2020 will be extended for 30 days from original expiration date.

Juvenile matters are being conducted in Santa Maria and Santa Barbara. Appearances for the minor and parents in Dependency matters are being waived. Appearances for the minor and parents in Delinquency matters is determined on a case-by-case basis.

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Jurors scheduled for the weeks of March 16 and March 23 will not be scheduled to appear and have been given credit for one year. If summoned for a future date, jurors may check their status online at juryservice.sbcourts.org or call (855) 955-1103 for additional information.

The court continues to monitor this evolving situation and will make additional adjustments to court operations as appropriate.

Please check the court's website www.sbcourts.org for COVID-19 updates.