

JAN 11 2022

BRENDA L. McCORMICK
Executive Officer and Clerk
By:  Deputy

**SUPERIOR COURT OF THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA
FOR THE COUNTY OF VENTURA**

**AMENDED ADMINISTRATIVE ORDER RE:
IMPLEMENTATION OF EMERGENCY RELIEF
IN RESPONSE TO COVID-19**

**AMENDED ADMINISTRATIVE
ORDER
NO. 22.02**

The Ventura Superior Court is committed to protecting the health and safety of jurors, attorneys, staff, law enforcement, other court users, judges and the general public, while continuing to perform its constitutional and statutory duties. Beginning on March 14, 2020, the Presiding Judge issued several Emergency Orders closing the court for non-essential services to protect the health and safety of the public and court personnel. Over the past twenty-two months the court has implemented various protocols designed to protect the health and safety of all court users and personnel in response to the Covid-19 pandemic.

In response to the current surge in the number of Ventura County Covid-19 cases, which includes a surge in cases in the courts, due to the Omicron variant and in order to continue to protect the health and safety of court users and personnel pursuant to article VI, section 1 of the state Constitution; *Code of Civil Procedure* §128; *Government Code* §68070; California Rules of Court, rule 10.603; the inherent powers of the Court (*In re Reno* (2012) 55 Cal. 4th 428, 522); and federal, state and local public health guidance:

THE COURT THEREFORE FINDS AND ORDERS AS FOLLOWS:

1. As of January 11, 2022, through January 31, 2022, inclusive, all Ventura Superior Court courtrooms and clerk's offices will be closed, except for essential emergency matters and time-sensitive, essential functions. To address emergency and time sensitive matters, the following courtrooms shall continue to remain open, unless otherwise provided herein: limited

1 criminal courtrooms for in-custody and limited out of custody matters, only; one (1) Family Law
2 courtroom for all types of emergency restraining orders, other emergency orders, hearings
3 currently calendared in Courtroom 34 for permanent restraining orders and hearings currently
4 calendared in Courtroom 32 for permanent elder abuse restraining orders; the off-site mental
5 health courtrooms; one (1) juvenile delinquency courtroom; one (1) juvenile dependency
6 courtroom; one (1) courtroom at the Juvenile Courthouse on Fridays, only, at 9:00 a.m., for
7 probate, conservatorship and guardianship emergency ex parte matters; and one (1) civil
8 courtroom on Tuesdays and Fridays, only, at 8:30 a.m., for emergency ex parte temporary
9 restraining orders (excluding civil harassment), emergency Orders to Show Cause re:
10 Preliminary Injunction or emergency Unlawful Detainer requests for Stay of Execution or Relief
11 from Forfeiture. The Civil Supervising Judge has the authority, based upon a showing of good
12 cause, to grant permission for an emergency ex parte hearing for a matter not listed above or to
13 be heard on another day, if circumstances so warrant. Parties seeking emergency orders in
14 Family, Civil or Probate shall reserve an emergency ex parte hearing by contacting the judicial
15 secretary for the department and following the instructions on the court's website regarding the
16 submission of papers. Parties are strongly encouraged to appear by Zoom in Family, CourtCall
17 in Civil and Zoom or CourtCall in Probate. Civil Mandatory Settlement Conferences will remain
18 on calendar, as set forth in paragraph 19 below. Also, the on-call magistrate will continue to
19 perform his or her regular duties.

20 2. There shall be no in-person appointments for the clerk's offices, Records &
21 Exhibits Department nor the self-help centers from January 10, 2022, through January 31, 2022,
22 inclusive.

23 3. For purposes of computing time for filing papers under *Code of Civil Procedure*
24 §§12 and 12a, January 11, 2022, through January 31, 2022, inclusive are deemed holidays,
25 except for the following:

- 26 a. All Criminal filings and Traffic citations will be processed and filed that are
27 submitted through interagency or United States mail. Traffic/Collection
28 payments may be made at the walk-up windows located at the Hall of
Justice in Ventura or at the East County Courthouse in Simi Valley, on-line

1 or by United States Mail. No non-emergency matters will be calendared
2 during the remainder of January.

3 b. All Juvenile filings will be processed and filed that are submitted through
4 interagency or United States mail. No non-emergency matters will be
5 calendared during the remainder of January.

6 c. All filings relating to hearings that remain on calendar under this order
7 between January 11, 2022, through January 31, 2022, as follows:

8 i. Filings related to emergency matters, as set forth in paragraph 1 and;

9 ii. Filing related to in-custody or detention hearings.

10 d. The clerk's office may also file and process any documents submitted prior
11 to January 11, 2022.

12 4. E-Delivery for Civil, Family Law, Probate, and Small Claims filing shall be
13 suspended and unavailable from January 11, 2022 through January 31, 2022, inclusive. Drop
14 boxes shall also be unavailable for documents from January 11, 2022, through January 31, 2022,
15 which are deemed holidays for filings. Documents that will be filed as set forth in paragraph 3
16 above are to be submitted through the procedures set forth on the court's website or by United
17 States mail, only.

18 5. Any judge of the court may extend the time periods provided in *Code of Civil*
19 *Procedure* §§583.310 and 583.320 to bring an action to trial by not more than 30 days applicable
20 only to cases in which the statutory deadline otherwise would expire from January 10, 2022,
21 through January 31, 2022, inclusive. (See Chief Justice's January 7, 2022 order, Gov. Code
22 §68115(a)(6)).

23 6. Any judge of the court may extend by not more than 90 days the duration of any
24 temporary restraining order that would otherwise expire from January 11, 2022, through January
25 31, 2022, inclusive, because the emergency condition described herein prevented the court from
26 conducting proceedings to determine whether a permanent order should be entered. (See *Cal.*
27 *Rules of Court*, Emergency rule 8).

28 7. Any judge may extend the time period provided in *Penal Code* §859b for the
holding of a preliminary examination from 10 court days to not more than 30 court days.

1 applicable only to cases in which the statutory deadline otherwise would expire. (See Chief
2 Justice's March 30, 2020 Statewide Order).

3 8. The Supervising Judge of the Criminal Department may extend the time period
4 provided in *Penal Code* §1382 for the holding of a criminal trial by not more than 30 days
5 applicable only to cases in which the statutory deadline otherwise would expire from December
6 22, 2021, through January 20, 2022, inclusive and subject to a further order from the Chief
7 Justice authorizing the court to extend the time if the circumstances, so warrant. (Chief Justice's
8 December 20, 2021, Order. *Gov't Code* §68115(a)(10)).

9 9. Any judge may extend the time for arraignment for out of custody misdemeanors
10 and infractions for up to 60 days.

11 10. All in-custody matters currently on calendar remain as set to be addressed by a
12 judicial officer in the arraignment courtrooms and courtroom 23. Courtroom 10 will be closed.
13 The parties/attorneys are to appear by Zoom, if available in the assigned courtroom. (See *Cal.*
14 *Rules of Court*, Emergency rule 3).

15 11. Any judge may extend the time for the holding of an evidentiary revocation hearing
16 under *Penal Code* §3044(a)(2) for up to 30 days.

17 12. All out of custody felony arraignments, including arraignments on the Information,
18 Early Disposition Conferences and Pre-trial conferences with no jury trial set shall remain on
19 calendar. All out of custody preliminary hearings currently set in Courtroom 14 at 8:15 a.m., from
20 January 11, 2022 – January 31, 2022 will be reviewed and the new last day determined by the
21 Criminal Supervising Judge.

22 13. Traffic matters set for hearing on Tuesday, January 11, 2022 in S1, East County
23 Courthouse (Simi Valley) shall remain on calendar. Parties are to remain outside of the
24 courtroom, until their case is called.

25 14. All other criminal matters, not specifically addressed above, are continued for up
26 to 60 days from the currently scheduled date on calendar to a later date with notice to the parties.
27 However, the Criminal Supervising Judge may calendar additional individual matters upon a
28 finding that the interests of justice outweigh the reasons herein for the continuance. This order
is not intended to prohibit a court from taking pleas or dismissing actions.

1 15. Attorneys may appear pursuant to *Penal Code* §977 for clients, if the *Penal Code*
2 §977 waiver is in substantial compliance in the form required by *California Rules of Court*,
3 Emergency Rule 5.

4 16. All Family Law trials, Family Law Request for Orders Hearings and Family Law
5 Mediations, on calendar from January 11, 2022, through January 31, 2022, inclusive, are off
6 calendar to be continued by the court to a later date, with notice to the parties.

7 17. All Family Law Settlement Conferences, Trial Setting Conferences, Status
8 Conferences and Case Management Conferences re: submission of judgment are suspended.

9 18. All Civil Long Cause Jury Trials & Non-Jury Trials, (except as provided for in
10 paragraph 5 above), Civil Law & Motion hearings, Short Cause Matters and Trials, Trials de
11 Novo, and Courtroom 22b matters on calendar from January 11, 2022, through January 31,
12 2022, inclusive, are off calendar, to be continued by the court to a later date, with notice to the
13 parties.

14 19. The court will continue to conduct civil Mandatory Settlement Conferences during
15 the closure. All Civil Mandatory Settlement Conferences set in Courtroom 22 shall remain on
16 calendar from January 11, 2022 through January 31, 2022, inclusive. If a party/attorney is not
17 able to appear remotely by using the Zoom platform they are to contact the Courtroom 22 judicial
18 secretary for a continuance. Instructions for attending Zoom MSCs are available on the court's
19 website.

20 20. All non-emergency Probate hearings and trials on calendar from January 11, 2022
21 through January 31, 2022, inclusive, are off calendar to be continued by the court to a later date
22 with notice to the parties.

23 21. All Unlawful Detainer matters currently on calendar from January 11, 2022, through
24 January 31, 2022, inclusive, are off calendar to be continued by the court to a later date with
25 notice to the parties.

26 22. Under *Code of Civil Procedure* §116.57(a), the court finds and declares that good
27 cause exists for postponing the time period within which a small claims matter may be heard as
28 set forth in *Code of Civil Procedure* §116.330(a). The court will issue orders re-setting the
hearings of all small claims matters currently on calendar from January 11, 2022 through January

1 31, 2022, inclusive, to a later date with notice to the parties.

2 23. Any judge may extend the time period provided in *Welfare and Institutions Code*
3 §313 within which a minor taken into custody pending dependency proceedings must be
4 released from custody to not more than seven (7) days, applicable only to minors for whom the
5 statutory deadline otherwise would expire from January 10, 2022, through January 31, 2022,
6 inclusive. (See Chief Justice's January 7, 2022 order, *Gov't Code* §68115(a)(11)).

7 24. Any judge may extend the time provided in *Welfare and Institutions Code* §315
8 within which a minor taken into custody pending dependency proceedings must be given a
9 detention hearing to not more than seven (7) days, applicable only to minors for whom the
10 statutory deadline otherwise would expire from January 10, 2022, through January 31, 2022,
11 inclusive. (See Chief Justice's January 7, 2022 order, *Gov't Code* §68115(a)(11)).

12 25. Any judge may extend the time periods provided in *Welfare and Institutions Code*
13 §§632 and 637 within which a minor taken into custody pending wardship proceedings and
14 charged with a felony offense must be given a detention hearing or rehearing to not more than
15 seven (7) days, applicable only to minors for whom the statutory deadline otherwise would expire
16 from January 10, 2022, through January 31, 2022, inclusive. (See Chief Justice's January 7,
17 2022 order, *Gov't Code* §68115(a)(11)).

18 26. Any judge may extend the time period provided in *Welfare and Institutions Code* §
19 334 within which a hearing on a juvenile dependency petition must be held by not more than
20 fifteen (15) days, applicable only to minors for whom the statutory deadline otherwise would
21 expire from January 10, 2022, through January 31, 2022, inclusive. (See Chief Justice's January
22 7, 2022 order, *Gov't Code* §68115(a)(12)).

23 27. Any judge may extend the time period provided in *Welfare and Institutions Code*
24 §657 within which a hearing on a wardship petition for a minor charged with a felony offense
25 must be held by not more than fifteen (15) days, applicable only to minors for whom the statutory
26 deadline otherwise would expire from January 10, 2022, through January 31, 2022, inclusive.
(See Chief Justice's January 7, 2022 order, *Gov't Code* §68115(a)(12)).


27 28. Any local Ventura County Superior Court Rule of Court that is inconsistent with this
28 order is temporarily suspended. Any provision of an Administrative Order previously issued by

1 this court that is inconsistent with this order is hereby superseded.

2 THIS ORDER IS EFFECTIVE IMMEDIATELY, SUPERSEDES ADMINISTRATIVE
3 ORDER 22.02 AND WILL REMAIN IN EFFECT THROUGH JANUARY 31, 2022, UNLESS
4 EXTENDED, AMENDED OR SUPERSEDED PRIOR TO THAT DATE.

5 IT IS SO ORDERED.

6
7 DATED: January 11, 2022

8 
9 Bruce A. Young
10 Presiding Judge

11
12
13
14
15
16
17
18
19
20
21
22
23
24
25
26
27
28

THE JUDICIAL COUNCIL OF THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA


Because of the COVID-19 pandemic, leading to health and safety concerns resulting in substantial operational impediments, and the proclamations of states of emergency by federal, state, and local officials, it was determined on 21 prior occasions that the conditions described in Government Code section 68115 were met with regard to the Superior Court of California, County of Ventura (Court). Based on those determinations, and pursuant to the Court's requests, corresponding emergency orders issued authorizing the Court to implement certain relief under Government Code section 68115. Upon the renewed request of Presiding Judge Bruce A. Young, it now is determined that the conditions described in Government Code section 68115(a) continue to exist (Gov. Code, § 68115(c)), and it is ordered that the Court is authorized to do the following:

- Declare that from January 10, 2022, to January 31, 2022, inclusive, be deemed holidays for purposes of computing the time for filing papers with the Court under Code of Civil Procedure sections 12 and 12a, if the above-described emergency conditions substantially interfere with the public's ability to file papers in a court facility on those dates (Gov. Code, § 68115(a)(4));
- Extend the time periods provided in sections 583.310 and 583.320 of the Code of Civil Procedure to bring an action to trial by not more than 30 days, applicable only to cases in which the statutory deadline otherwise would expire from January 10, 2022, to January 31, 2022, inclusive (Gov. Code, § 68115(a)(6));
- Extend the time period provided in section 313 of the Welfare and Institutions Code within which a minor taken into custody pending dependency proceedings must be released from custody to not more than 7 days, applicable only to minors for whom the statutory deadline otherwise would expire from January 10, 2022, to January 31, 2022, inclusive (Gov. Code, § 68115(a)(11));
- Extend the time period provided in section 315 of the Welfare and Institutions Code within which a minor taken into custody pending dependency proceedings must be given a detention hearing to not more

than 7 days, applicable only to minors for whom the statutory deadline otherwise would expire from January 10, 2022, to January 31, 2022, inclusive (Gov. Code, § 68115(a)(11));

- Extend the time periods provided in sections 632 and 637 of the Welfare and Institutions Code within which a minor taken into custody pending wardship proceedings and charged with a felony offense must be given a detention hearing or rehearing to not more than 7 days, applicable only to minors for whom the statutory deadline otherwise would expire from January 10, 2022, to January 31, 2022, inclusive (Gov. Code, § 68115(a)(11));
- Extend the time period provided in section 334 of the Welfare and Institutions Code within which a hearing on a juvenile dependency petition must be held by not more than 15 days, applicable only to minors for whom the statutory deadline otherwise would expire from January 10, 2022, to January 31, 2022, inclusive (Gov. Code, § 68115(a)(12)); and
- Extend the time period provided in section 657 of the Welfare and Institutions Code within which a hearing on a wardship petition for a minor charged with a felony offense must be held by not more than 15 days, applicable only to minors for whom the statutory deadline otherwise would expire from January 10, 2022, to January 31, 2022, inclusive (Gov. Code, § 68115(a)(12)).

Date: January 7, 2022


Hon. Tani G. Cantil-Sakauye
Chief Justice of California and
Chair of the Judicial Council