

JUN 09 2020

1 SUPERIOR COURT OF THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA
2 FOR THE COUNTY OF VENTURA

MICHAEL D. PLANET
Executive Officer and Clerk
BY:  Deputy

3 ADMINISTRATIVE ORDER RE:
4 RESTRICTED PUBLIC ACCESS; AND
5 LIVESTREAM BROADCASTING

ADMINISTRATIVE ORDER
NO. 20.20

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11 In response to health and safety concerns caused by the COVID-19 pandemic, national,
12 state and local elected officials declared states of emergency within their respective
13 jurisdictions. Governor Gavin Newsom proclaimed a State of Emergency to exist in California
14 on March 4, 2020. President Donald Trump proclaimed a national emergency on March 13,
15 2020. On March 19, 2020, Governor Newsom issued an Executive Order ordering all
16 Californians to stay home, except those employed in a job deemed to be essential.

17 The Court must fulfill its statutory duties while safeguarding the well-being of the public
18 it serves. In the absence of a cure, treatment, or effective vaccine for this highly contagious
19 virus, social distancing, face coverings and good hygiene are the only tools available to slow or
20 prevent its spread. The Court has and continues to take extensive measures to reduce the
21 number of persons coming to its courthouses, including: limiting the matters to be heard on
22 any given day; spreading the scheduling of cases; reducing the number of summoned jurors;
23 facilitating remote telephonic/video court proceedings; increasing on-line services; and,
24 preparing to implement scheduled appointments for in-person services. Additionally, the Court
25 has ordered the use of face coverings in all public areas and for physical distancing.

26 To prevent or slow the spread of COVID-19 and to protect the health of court users,
27 employees and judicial officers, pursuant to *Code of Civil Procedure* §128; *Government Code*
28 §68070, *California Rules of Court*, rule 10.603 and the inherent powers of the Court (*In re Reno*

1 (2012) 55 Cal.4th 428, 522) and in compliance with public health guidelines, **THIS COURT**
2 **HEREBY FINDS AND ORDERS AS FOLLOWS:**

3 1. The court is planning to resume many services on June 15, 2020; however, with
4 community spread of COVID-19 still a concern, many services will be provided remotely or by
5 appointment only. Access to any and all courthouses, courtrooms, clerk's offices, self-help
6 centers and public areas shall be restricted at all times to judges, commissioners, court staff,
7 persons seeking or participating in emergency services, persons required or permitted to
8 appear for scheduled hearings or trials, persons with a scheduled appointment for the clerk's
9 offices or self-help centers and other authorized persons.

10 2. Beginning June 15, 2020, access to any and all court proceedings shall be limited
11 to summoned jurors, parties, their attorneys, witnesses subpoenaed to testify, one support
12 person statutorily permitted to accompany a person seeing a temporary restraining order and
13 other authorized persons.

14 3. The term "other authorized persons" includes, but is not limited to, news reporters,
15 and news media representatives subject to prior approval under the procedures outlined in
16 California Rules of Court, and Ventura County Superior Court rule 26, or any other applicable
17 rule, order or policy.

18 4. This order does not restrict or otherwise abrogate the express and inherent
19 authority of the court and its judges to provide for the orderly conduct of proceedings, including
20 the decision to permit or deny access to any courtroom or hallways adjacent to courtrooms.


21 5. Beginning June 15, 2020 and until further notice, the court will broadcast live audio
22 streams of certain court proceedings as follows:

23 a. The health and safety concerns caused by the COVID-19 pandemic
24 necessarily require restricting the public's physical access to observe court
25 proceedings and there is no less restrictive means by which to accomplish full
26 public access add social distancing under the current recommendations of
27 governmental health authorities.

- 1 b. The court will broadcast, and the public may simultaneously access, live audio
2 streams of certain court proceedings via the links available on the court's
3 website at ventura.courts.ca.gov.
- 4 c. However, each judge retains the discretion and authority to refuse, limit or
5 terminate such broadcasts, in whole or in part, pursuant to the factors and
6 prohibitions articulated in *California Rules of court*, rule 1.150, and in
7 consideration of other statutory and constitutional provisions.
- 8 d. The livestreamed court proceedings may not be photographed, recorded
9 (audio or video), or re-broadcast by anyone without prior written judicial
10 authorization.
- 11 e. This order does not restrict or otherwise abrogate the express and inherent
12 authority of the court and its judges to provide for the orderly conduct of
13 proceedings. The Court reserves the authority to rescind or modify any part of
14 this order, as appropriate, to address changing circumstances.

15 THIS ORDER IS EFFECTIVE IMMEDIATELY AND MAY BE AMENDED AS
16 CIRCUMSTANCES REQUIRE.
17 IT IS SO ORDERED.

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20 DATED: June 9, 2020

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22 Kent M. Kellegrew
23 Presiding Judge
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