

SUPERIOR COURT OF THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA
IN AND FOR THE COUNTY OF SISKIYOU

In Re:

Order of the Presiding Judge

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In consideration of the public health crisis currently affecting our state, local, national, and international communities and the March 19, 2020 Executive Order (N-33-20) issued by Governor Newsom and requiring all California residents who do not fall into certain essential categories to stay home or at their place of residence, the Siskiyou County Superior Court will be making calendar changes and limiting access to the courthouse effective immediately.

Courtrooms will practice social distancing, with any persons in the courtroom instructed to sit at least six feet apart. Court customers who do not have a case on calendar or business with the Court should not enter the courthouse. The Court currently plans to resume regular court operations on Monday, April 20, 2020, subject to any further orders that may be made by the Court or state or federal authorities.

Emergency orders have been issued by the Chief Justice of California with regard to the Siskiyou County Superior Court, declaring March 23 through April 17, 2020 holidays for purposes of computing time under various statutes and extending various statutory time periods. This Court's orders implementing those orders are issued separately and hereby incorporated.

Criminal Matters:

A. Orders to Appear and General Orders

1. Beginning March 23, 2020 through April 17, 2020 counsel can and should appear for clients pursuant to Penal Code §977.
2. To facilitate continuances, the Court will accept §977 waivers executed out of court for a defendant with a pending misdemeanor or felony criminal matter who is out of custody and who has an appearance beginning March 23, 2020 through April 17, 2020, with a representation from counsel that he or she explained the waiver to the defendant.

B. In-Custody Arraignments

1. Beginning March 23, 2020 through April 17, 2020, all in-custody arraignments shall be heard on Mondays at 1:30 p.m. (See March 20, 2020 General Order Re: Implementation of Emergency Relief Authorized Pursuant to Government Code Section 68115 by Chair of Judicial Council, paragraph 5.)

C. Jury Trials

1. All jury trials scheduled to commence beginning March 23, 2020 through April 17, 2020 are vacated and any person who has received a juror summons will be re-summoned for a date in the future. This Order is based on a finding of good cause arising out of the Public Health Crisis declared by the County of Siskiyou, the Governor of the State of California, and the President of the United States. This Order will facilitate the court's goal of eliminating public gatherings in our courthouses of large groups of people that jury trials necessarily require.
2. Criminal jury trials will be reset as the court and the parties agree.

D. All Other Pending Criminal Appearances and Hearings

1. Beginning March 23, 2020 through April 17, 2020, all felony cases, with the exception of last day arraignments, will be heard on Tuesdays. In-custody cases will be heard at 8:30 a.m. and out-of-custody cases at 1:30 p.m. Any cases currently set on a Wednesday or Thursday will be advanced to Tuesday of the same week.
2. Any felony criminal cases pending with a date to appear scheduled beginning March 23, 2020 through April 17, 2020 with an in-custody defendant will go forward as calendared, subject to paragraph 1 above.
3. All felony out of custody no-time-waiver cases with an appearance date beginning March 23, 2020 through April 17, 2020 shall go forward as scheduled subject to paragraph 1 above; however, counsel are encouraged to agree to continue matters to a date beyond April 17, 2020. The Court will accept §977 appearances. (See paragraph A.2 above.)
4. All other felony criminal matters with appearances set beginning March 23, 2020 through April 17, 2020 with a time waiver, including violations of probation and other matters without time constraints, will be re-set for 4 weeks from the date currently scheduled. Defendants are ordered to appear on the continued date. If necessary to retain jurisdiction, the court may issue and hold a bench warrant to the continued date.
5. All misdemeanor cases currently set on a Monday beginning March 23, 2020 through April 17, 2020 are rescheduled as follows: Cases set on March 23, 2020 are rescheduled to June 15, 2020. Cases set on March 30, 2020 are rescheduled to June 22, 2020. Cases set on April 6, 2020 are rescheduled to June 29, 2020. Cases set on April 13, 2020 are rescheduled to July 6, 2020.

6. All infraction trials set beginning March 23, 2020 through April 17, 2020 are rescheduled as follows: Trials set on March 24, 2020 are rescheduled to April 21, 2020. Trials set on April 7, 2020 are rescheduled to May 5, 2020. Trials set on April 14, 2020 are rescheduled to May 12, 2020.
7. All misdemeanor or infraction cases currently set on a Tuesday beginning March 23, 2020 through April 17, 2020 are rescheduled as follows: Cases set on March 24, 2020 are rescheduled to June 16, 2020. Cases set on April 7, 2020 are rescheduled to June 23, 2020. Cases set on April 14, 2020 are rescheduled to June 30, 2020. Defendants need not appear on the originally scheduled date.

Civil and Probate Matters

A. Generally

1. The Court anticipates continuing all cases set beginning March 23, 2020 through April 17, 2020 unless there is a critical issue requiring a case be heard as currently set. Parties will be notified by the Court of dates to which cases are continued. Any cases for which a hearing is required between March 23, 2020 and April 17, 2020 will be heard on Wednesdays at 1:30 p.m. Cases currently set at an earlier time on Wednesday or on Friday will be rescheduled to Wednesday at 1:30 p.m. Counsel in all civil and probate law and motion matters with cases that are not continued by the Court should plan to attend via Court Call. Attorneys are responsible for scheduling Court Call appearances. Attorneys are hereby pre-authorized to appear telephonically and need not submit a request to the court.

B. Civil Jury Trials

1. All jury trials scheduled to commence beginning March 23, 2020 through April 17, 2020 are vacated and any person who has received a juror summons will be re-summoned for a date in the future. This Order is based on a finding of good cause arising out of the Public Health Crisis declared by the County of Siskiyou, the Governor of the State of California, and the President of the United States. This Order will facilitate the court's goal of eliminating public gatherings in our courthouses of large groups of people that jury trials necessarily require.
2. Cases in which trials are vacated will be put on calendar for resetting, with parties notified by the Court of the date.

C. Unlawful Detainers/Foreclosure Injunctions/Civil Harassment Hearings

1. All hearings set beginning March 23, 2020 through April 17, 2020 shall be rescheduled pursuant to Court Clerk's notice to the litigants.

D. Small Claims Trials

1. All Small Claims trials set beginning March 23, 2020 through April 17, 2020 shall be rescheduled pursuant to Court Clerk's notice to the litigants.

E. Civil Harassment Trials

1. All civil harassment trials shall remain as set and shall be advanced from Friday to Wednesday at 1:30 p.m. unless the Court advises the parties of a continued date.

Family Law Matters

A. Department of Child Support Services

1. All child support hearings scheduled beginning March 25, 2020 through April 17, 2020 are vacated and shall be rescheduled to be heard on April 22, 2020.

B. Family Law and Civil Domestic Violence Matters

1. All ex parte requests and hearings on temporary restraining orders or temporary custody hearings shall remain as set but shall be heard on Wednesday at 1:30 p.m. unless the Court advises the parties of a continued date. The Family Law Judge shall re-schedule any other pending hearings as deemed appropriate.

C. Mediations

1. All mediations scheduled beginning March 23, 2020 through April 17, 2020 shall be telephonic, as coordinated by the mediator. If mediations during this time period need to be rescheduled or cancelled, the parties will be notified by the court or the mediator.

Juvenile Dependency Matters

1. All hearings other than Detention Hearings and 12-month Review Hearings shall be continued for the period beginning March 23, 2020 through April 17, 2020. Matters may be specially set on a case-by-case basis with court authorization.
2. All Detention Hearings shall be heard on Monday mornings except as otherwise specially set with court authorization. Filings for Detention Hearings shall continue to be done according to statute.
3. Beginning March 23, 2020 through April 17, 2020, Dependency counsel are encouraged to appear on behalf of their respective clients. The court will waive the personal appearances of the parties without detriment to the party appearing through counsel. Counsel may appear via Court Call. Attorneys are responsible for scheduling Court Call appearances. Attorneys are hereby pre-authorized to appear telephonically and need not submit a request to the court.

Juvenile Justice Matters

1. If the minor is detained, all hearings other than Detention, Jurisdiction or Disposition Hearings shall be continued during the period beginning March 23, 2020 through April 17, 2020. Matters may be specially set on a case-by-case basis with court authorization.
 - a. Probation shall file a memorandum regarding placement rather than the court conducting 15-Day Reviews in order to monitor placement efforts.
2. Minor's Counsel are encouraged to waive the appearance of their client at hearings other than evidentiary hearings.
3. Juvenile Justice matters that are not continued beginning March 23, 2020 through April 17, 2020 shall be advanced to or set on a Monday at 11:00 a.m.

All Recovery Court/Family Dependency Recovery Court/Mental Health Court

Appearances in these courts are vacated for the period beginning March 23, 2020 through April 17, 2020. Appearances will resume on April 23, 2020 at the previously assigned times.

Self Help Centers

The Self Help Offices shall be closed to in-person assistance beginning March 23, 2020 through April 17, 2020. Self-help staff will assist members of the public via email at mkane@siskiyou.courts.ca.gov or a message can be left at (530) 842-0197.

Court Closure

Beginning March 23, 2020 through April 17, 2020, the Court will be closed on Thursdays and Fridays. A judge will be available in the courthouse on Thursdays to handle emergency requests. Judges will be available telephonically on Fridays to handle emergency requests consistent with the existing after-hours duty schedule.

IT IS SO ORDERED

Date: 3-20-20



KAREN L. DIXON, Presiding Judge