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SUPERIOR COURT OF SUTTER COUNTY NOVEL CORONAVIRUS (COVID-19) – COURT UPDATES AND INFORMATION

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What is the Superior Court of Sutter County doing about the Coronavirus?

Similar to other government agencies and California Trial Courts, the Superior Court of California, County of Sutter (Court) is closely monitoring the Novel Coronavirus (COVID-19) situation. The Court is in routine communication with Sutter County Public Health, other Sutter County justice agencies, other California Trial Courts, and the Judicial Council of California. We are working with these and other entities to ensure we have up-to-date information and can best weigh the need to provide access to justice to our community, while also supporting the activities of our public health agencies, the health of the public and Court employees.

The Court has implemented additional cleaning protocols in high use areas to reduce the potential for transmission of this or other viruses for those coming to our courthouses.

We encourage everyone to follow the Centers for Disease Control (CDC) <https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/index.html> and Sutter County Public Health guidance on prevention https://www.suttercounty.org/doc/government/depts/cao/em/cs_es_home.

Below is more detailed information on the following topics:

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Court Events and Appearances

- **Has the Court suspended any types of matters or hearings?**

At this time, court hearings are proceeding as normal. If you have an upcoming court hearing, you do still need to appear for your hearing.

- **I am sick, do I still need to appear for my court case?**

If you believe you are sick or are experiencing symptoms of COVID-19 or any other communicable disease, please contact the Court Clerk's Office at 530-822-3000 for further information. If you have an attorney, contact your attorney before calling the Court.

Self-Help Services

- **Is the Court Self-Help Center still open?**

Yes. The Court is currently still providing self-help services, we will be practicing the social distancing recommended by the CDC so class sizes will be severely limited. However, during this time, the Court is encouraging the public to make use of the online services offered at <https://www.suttercourts.com/self-help>, whenever possible. If you have questions, call the Self-Help Center at 530-822-3305. Self-Help Services may be further restricted in the coming days based on the recommendations of local health officials so please check the website before coming to the courthouse for classes.

Jury Service

- **Is the Court still holding jury trials?**

Yes. Some trials are Constitutionally required to take place on the date that they are scheduled. The court is working with parties and our justice partners to continue the trials that can be continued.

- **Do I still need to report for jury service?**

If you are not sick, or are not within the self-isolating populations as recommended by the Governor you should report to the jury assembly room on the date and time indicated on your jury summons as you would normally. The Court has the ability to comply with social distancing recommendations and still carry out our Constitutionally mandated functions. Please check the website for any updates regarding your jury service.

- **Do I need to report for jury service if I am sick?**

If you are sick, or a member of the population for which self-isolating is recommended, or if you have traveled internationally in the last thirty days, please contact the Jury Service Office at 530-822-3307 or by e-mail at jurydivision@suttercourts.com to discuss a potential postponement of your service.

- **How do I stay informed of changes to my jury service?**

Please consider using the Court's Online Jury Portal (<http://www.suttercourts.com/general-info/jury-service>). There are times that cases resolve after the Court has asked you to report.

Payment of Court-Ordered Fines and Fees

Payments of fines and fees ordered in court, as well as payments on payment plans established for traffic citations or court-ordered fines and fees, that are due between March 18, 2020, and May 1, 2020, will receive a 60-day due date extension. Court-ordered fines and fees include adjudicated traffic infraction citations and any fines, fees, and assessments ordered by a judge in relation to a misdemeanor or felony matter.

If you have a pending traffic infraction citation, you may contact the court at 530-822-3303 to request an extension to pay or appear.

General Information on COVID-19

For more information, please visit Sutter County Public Health's website at:

https://www.suttercounty.org/doc/government/depts/cao/em/cs_es_home

Or, the California Department of Public Health at:

<https://www.cdph.ca.gov/Programs/CID/DCDC/Pages/Immunization/ncov2019.aspx>

Or, the Centers for Disease Control (CDC) at:

<https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/index.html>