

1  
2  
3  
4  
5  
6  
7  
8  
9  
10  
11  
12  
13  
14  
15  
16  
17  
18  
19  
20  
21  
22  
23  
24  
25  
26  
27  
28

**SUPERIOR COURT OF THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA**

**IN AND FOR THE COUNTY OF KERN**

**GENERAL ORDER RE: IMPLEMENTATION OF EMERGENCY RELIEF  
AUTHORIZED PURSUANT TO GOVERNMENT CODE SECTION 68115 BY CHAIR  
OF JUDICIAL COUNCIL AND CALIFORNIA CONSTITUTION, ARTICLE VI,  
SECTION 6**

Pursuant to her authority under the California Constitution, article VI, section 6 and Government Code section 68115, and after careful consideration, balancing the constitutional due process rights of parties in both criminal and civil proceedings with the health and safety of these parties, the public, court staff, judicial officers, attorneys, witnesses, jurors, and others present at these proceedings, among other considerations, Hon. Tani G. Cantil-Sakauye, Chief Justice of California authorized all Superior Courts to implement various forms of relief. Based on that Order, Presiding Judge Judith K. Dulcich issues the following orders:

1. All jury trials are suspended and continued for a period of sixty (60) days from the date of this order. Courts may conduct such a trial at an earlier date, upon a finding of good cause shown or through the use of remote technology, when appropriate.

2. The time period provided in Penal Code section 1382 for the holding of a criminal trial is extended for a period of sixty (60) days from the date of this order. Courts may conduct such a trial at an earlier date, upon a finding of good cause shown or through the use of remote technology, when appropriate.

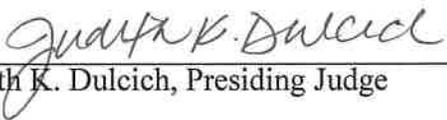
3. The time period provided in Code of Civil Procedure sections 583.310 and 583.320 for the holding of a civil trial is extended for a period of sixty (60) days from the date of this order. Courts may conduct such a trial at an earlier date, upon a finding of good cause shown or through the use of remote technology, when appropriate.

4. All superior courts are authorized under rule 10.613(i) of the California Rules of Court to adopt any proposed rules or rule amendment that is intended to address the impact of the COVID-19 pandemic to take effect immediately, without advance circulation for 45 days of public comment. A court adopting any such rule change must provide a copy to Judicial Council staff and post notice of the change prominently on the court's website, along with the effective date of the

1 new or Page 3 of 3 amended rule. Additionally, the court must immediately distribute the new or  
2 amended rule as set forth in rule 10.613(g)(2). No litigant's substantive rights shall be prejudiced  
3 for failing to comply with the requirements of a new or amended rule until at least 20 days after  
4 the rule change has been distributed.

5 THIS ORDER IS EFFECTIVE IMMEDIATELY.

6 Dated: 3/24/20

7   
8 Judith K. Dulcich, Presiding Judge