

MAY 15 2020

By M. Fields
DEPUTY CLERK

SUPERIOR COURT OF CALIFORNIA

COUNTY OF SOLANO

DEPARTMENT EIGHT

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Case No.: MISC 002720

In Re: Small Claims Matters

**AMENDED STANDING ORDER
REGARDING SCHEDULING OF
SMALL CLAIMS MATTERS
(Effective May 18, 2020)**

THE COURT FINDS AS FOLLOWS:

1. On February 27, 2020, the County of Solano proclaimed a local emergency to exist due to the Novel Coronavirus (COVID-19) pursuant to Government Code, §§ 8630 et seq. On March 4, 2020, California Governor Newsom proclaimed a state of emergency to exist due to COVID-19 pursuant to Government Code, §§ 8550 et seq. On March 13, 2020, President Trump proclaimed a national state of emergency to exist due to COVID-19.

2. On March 18, 2020, the Solano County Health Officer issued an order effective through April 7, 2020, directing all individuals living in Solano County to shelter at their place of residence except to provide or receive certain essential services or engage in certain essential activities on behalf of businesses and governmental agencies. The order further directed businesses and governmental agencies to cease non-essential activities at places within Solano

1 County and to cease non-essential gatherings. That order was extended twice. A modified
2 order was issued May 7, 2020.

3 3. On March 19, 2020, Governor Newsom issued Executive Order N-33-20 ordering all
4 individuals living in the State of California to stay at home or their place of residence except as
5 needed to maintain continuity of operations of the federal critical infrastructure sectors.
6 Executive Order N-33-20 is in effect until further notice.

7 4. On March 17, 30 and April 29, 2020, acting as the Chair of the Judicial Council, Chief
8 Justice Tani G. Cantil-Sakaue granted the application for emergency orders sought by the
9 Solano County Superior Court pursuant to Government Code, § 68115. The current order
10 authorizes emergency operations through May 28, 2020. Pursuant to Government Code,
11 §68115(a)(4), due to the existence of an emergency condition that substantially interferes with
12 the public's ability to file papers in court, the days are deemed "holidays" for the purpose of
13 computing time for filing papers with the court under sections 12 and 12a of the Code of Civil
14 Procedure.
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16 5. On March 17, April 3 and 29, 2020, Solano County Superior Court Presiding Judge
17 Donna Stashyn issued a General Order re: Implementation of Emergency Relief authorizing
18 implementation of emergency orders by individual judicial officers as needed for their division.
19 Because of a change in the status of the orders, certain modifications to the implementation of
20 emergency operations in the civil division are appropriate.
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22 6. On March 23 and 30 and April 29, 2020, the Chief Justice issued statewide emergency
23 orders. Provisions of these orders include suspension of jury trials for 90 days and the
24 delegation of authority to trial courts to establish rules necessary to address the impact of the
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1 COVID-19 pandemic to take effect immediately. On April 6, 2020, the Judicial Council
2 issued Emergency Rules 1-13.

3 **BASED UPON THE ABOVE FINDINGS, IT IS ORDERED:**

4 1. Protection of public health and safety in connection with the COVID-19 pandemic
5 has necessitated the reduction in court operations.

6 2. For the period of emergency operations between March 17 and May 28, 2020, good
7 cause exists to postpone each scheduled small claims hearing.

8 3. During the period of emergency operations, new claims and orders for small claims
9 cases will not be set for trial.

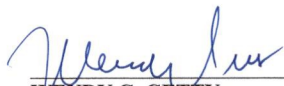
10 4. Commencing May 18, 2020, the civil division will re-notice continued small claims
11 matters as resources permit to be heard beginning June 15, 2020. Small claims cases will be
12 scheduled on a limited basis and in a manner to permit social-distancing and a reduction of
13 participants in court. The court will provide notice of the continued hearing date to any
14 defendant if a proof of service with a mailing address is on file. If the court does not have
15 evidence of a mailing address, it is the responsibility of the plaintiff to timely serve the notice
16 of the rescheduled hearing upon a defendant in addition to the underlying claim and order if it
17 was not previously served. Plaintiffs are reminded that service must be completed by a person
18 who is not a party to the action. Proof that a claim and order and a notice of continued hearing
19 has been served must be on file 5 days before the hearing. (See Code of Civil Proc. §
20 116.340(c).)
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5. Commencing June 1, 2020, the court will begin to process small claims cases filed during the period of emergency operations as resources permit.

IT IS SO ORDERED.

Dated: May 15, 2020



WENDY G. GETTY
Supervising Civil Judge
Solano County Superior Court