

## **Updates and Information Regarding Novel Coronavirus 2019 (COVID-19) (Updated on March 13, 2020)**

The Superior Court of California, County of Marin is closely monitoring the Novel Coronavirus 2019 (COVID-19) situation. The Court is in regular communication with the Marin County Health and Human Services Department, the Marin County Office of Emergency Services, other Marin County justice agencies, other California Superior Courts, and the Judicial Council of California. We are working with these and other entities to ensure that 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 and the health of the public.

At this time, there are no changes to normal court operations within the Court. Any future changes or updates will be posted on the website and communicated as appropriate. Any changes in court operations will be based on the guidance provided by public health agencies. If you have flu-like symptoms (fever, cough, or shortness of breath), please contact your healthcare provider for details on how to proceed with proper medical care and testing.

### **Information for prospective jurors**

The Court has a constitutional duty to remain open to serve the needs of the community to the greatest extent possible, even in the face of a potential COVID-19 outbreak.

However, the Court is working with counsel and litigants to minimize the need to call in jurors, reduce the number of jurors summoned and comply with CDC and Marin County Public Health guidelines concerning safe distances and assemblies.

The Court is also granting requests for deferrals and postponements remotely -- even for jurors who have previously made such a request -- for all potential jurors who are high risk or under medical or other business directives.

The Court will continue to monitor the situation and will make ongoing adjustments as the direction of Marin County Public Health and the needs of the community dictate.

### **Options to avoid physically coming to the court house**

If you are scheduled to appear in court and are sick or experiencing any acute respiratory illness symptoms (i.e. cough, shortness of breath, headaches), flu-like symptoms, have a fever, or are coughing or sneezing, please do not come to court.

**Traffic** – Please contact the Traffic Clerk at (415)444-7180 to reschedule your appearance to a later date.

**Criminal** – Defendants who have an attorney should contact the attorney for instruction.

Defendants who do not have an attorney should contact the appropriate department and leave a message indicating you are ill and leave appropriate call back information to have your case rescheduled. Courtroom phone numbers can be found at:

[http://www.marincourt.org/judicial\\_dept\\_assign.htm](http://www.marincourt.org/judicial_dept_assign.htm)

Witnesses and victims, please contact the appropriate agency that has been in touch with you about the matter for which you are scheduled to appear.

Private Attorneys, please contact Alternate Defenders Inc. (ADI) at (415)492-1039, to arrange for a special appearance.

**Civil, Probate, Family, Juvenile** – Parties who have an attorney should contact their attorney for instruction.

Parties without an attorney should call the courtroom department where your matter is scheduled. Courtroom phone numbers can be found here:

[http://www.marincourt.org/judicial\\_dept\\_assign.htm](http://www.marincourt.org/judicial_dept_assign.htm)

In addition, where allowed by law, all litigants are strongly encouraged to appear telephonically. Information can be found at: [http://www.marincourt.org/telephone\\_court\\_appear.htm](http://www.marincourt.org/telephone_court_appear.htm)

**For more information about COVID-19, please visit the following webpages**

Centers for Disease Control and Prevention: <https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/index.html>

California Department of Public Health: <https://www.cdph.ca.gov/Programs/CID/DCDC/Pages/Immunization/nCOV2019.aspx>