



**SUPERIOR COURT OF CALIFORNIA  
COUNTY OF SACRAMENTO**

**NEWS RELEASE**

FROM: Russell L. Hom, Presiding Judge

CONTACT: Kim Pedersen  
Public Information Officer  
(916) 591-0050  
sscpio@saccourt.ca.gov

<b>Release date:</b>  <b>March 30, 2020</b>
---------------------------------------------------

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE AND EFFECTIVE WEDNESDAY, APRIL 1, 2020**

**NOTICE OF EXTENDED TEMPORARY COURT CLOSURES**

***This Notice follows the Sacramento Superior Court's Order re: Temporary Court Closures, issued March 19, 2020.***

The temporary closure of the court runs through March 30, 2020, pursuant to the Order re: Temporary Court Closure issued on March 19, 2020. During the temporary closure, the court has serviced the enumerated emergency matters listed in the Temporary Closure Order.

On March 23, 2020, California Supreme Court Chief Justice Tani Cantil-Sakauye issued an order suspending all jury trials in the superior court of California for 60 days. As noted by the Chief Justice, courts cannot comply with the stringent health directives and restrictions established by the State "and continue to operate as they have in the past. Court proceedings require gatherings of court staff, litigants, attorneys, witnesses, and juries, well in excess of the numbers allowed for gathering under current executive and health orders."

On March 28, 2020 the Judicial Council of California unanimously recommended that the Chief Justice take action, pursuant Governor Newsom's Executive Order N 38-20, to permit courts to conduct judicial proceedings and court operations remotely, in order to protect the health and safety of the public, court personnel, judicial officers, litigants, and witnesses. As a result of the unsettled nature of the current public health risk from the COVID-19 virus, I have decided to continue the temporary closure until April 16, 2020. At that time, I will reassess the need to restrict access to the court and minimize staff levels.

Although, effective today, I've extended the Temporary Court Closure until April 16, 2020, I have also issued successive orders adding to that list of matters. While we have increased some court services incrementally, we remain focused on increasing services for only "essential" matters given the ongoing "stay-at-home" orders issued by the County Public Health Department and the Governor's Office. Such orders apply for the health and safety of all members of the public, including our court personnel.

For more detailed information, please go to the Court's website at [www.saccourt.ca.gov](http://www.saccourt.ca.gov).