



**Superior Court of the State of California
In and For The County of Placer
Roseville, California**

COURT ADMINISTRATION
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PUBLIC NOTICE

POSTED AND FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
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**THE SUPERIOR COURT OF PLACER COUNTY ANNOUNCES
UPDATED ACTIONS IN RESPONSE TO COVID-19 VIRUS
UPDATED JANUARY 21, 2021**

The Superior Court of Placer County is announcing changes to its operations, due to the recent increase in the spread of COVID-19 in Placer County and several neighboring counties. On December 9, 2020, the State Department of Public Health announced the Greater Sacramento Region, which includes Placer County, was subject to a Regional Stay at Home Order effective 11:59 pm on December 10, 2020. The Regional Stay at Home Order was subsequently lifted on January 12, 2021. Placer County's case rate, as of January 19, 2021, remains above 44 cases per 100,000 people. This reflects widespread transmission of the coronavirus, as defined by the State Department of Public Health. As of January 19, 2021, more than 50 Placer County residents have lost their lives to the virus since the start of January 2021, making it the deadliest month in the County since the start of the pandemic. Based on these factors, along with the continued impact on local hospitals, the court is announcing an extension of changes in court calendars and postponements of some hearings.

The court is announcing that:

- Jury trials will not be held in January 2021. The court will convene jury trials only in extraordinary circumstances through February 12, 2021.
- Family Law mandatory settlement conferences will proceed by mandatory video appearance until further notice. Parties unable to appear via remote technology must request an in-person appearance ([PL-CV014 Personal Appearance Request Form](#)), subject to judicial approval. Please see the court's remote appearance website for more details <http://www.placer.courts.ca.gov/RAS.shtml>.
- Further postponement of misdemeanor cases, as follows:

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- All in-custody matters will remain as set.
- All arraignments, trial assignment hearings, and trials will remain as set.
- All drug court and mental health court cases will remain as set.
- All driving under the influence and domestic violence misdemeanor hearings not specifically noted above that are set between November 23, 2020 and February 12, 2021 are postponed 12 weeks. Defendants are ordered to appear on a date 12 weeks from their scheduled hearing. The court will provide notice. Defendants and sentenced individuals must comply with all existing orders related to their release, probation, parole, post-release community supervision, or mandatory supervision including any criminal protective orders.
- All misdemeanor hearings, excluding driving under the influence, domestic violence, drug court cases, mental health cases, and traffic cases, not specifically noted above that are set between November 23, 2020 and February 12, 2021 are postponed 12 weeks. Defendants are ordered to appear on a date 12 weeks from their scheduled hearing. The court will provide notice. Defendants and sentenced individuals must comply with all existing orders related to their release, probation, parole, post-release community supervision, or mandatory supervision including any criminal protective orders.
- The court will postpone all traffic infraction and non-traffic infraction pre-trial and post-trial matters set November 23, 2020 through February 28, 2021 to an available date at least 16 weeks from the currently scheduled court date. This includes all pay or appear dates for traffic infractions.
- The court will postpone all traffic misdemeanor pre and post-trial hearings set November 23, 2020 through February 28, 2021 to an available date at least 16 weeks from the currently scheduled court date.
- The court will postpone all traffic infraction and non-traffic infraction trials set November 23, 2020 through February 28, 2021 to an available date at least 12 weeks out.
- Family centered case resolution six month and twelve month conferences set November 23, 2020 through February 28, 2021 will be dropped from calendar. All 18 month family centered case resolution conferences will remain as set.
- Family Law trials and other matters set from the family law trial assignment calendar, excluding contempt proceedings and matters involving domestic violence, will proceed by mandatory video appearance effective November 23, 2020 through February 12, 2021. Parties are required to upload all evidence to the court's evidence sharing platform prior to their court date. Parties unable to appear via remote technology must request an in-person appearance ([PL-CV014 Personal Appearance Request Form](#)), subject to judicial approval. Please see the court's remote appearance website for more details <http://www.placer.courts.ca.gov/RAS.shtml>.

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- There is no change to the mandate for remote appearances in most family law non-trial matters.
- All small claims cases will continue to be held by video appearance. Parties unable to appear via remote technology must request an in-person appearance ([PL-CV014 Personal Appearance Request Form](#)), subject to judicial approval. Please see the court's remote appearance website for more details <http://www.placer.courts.ca.gov/RAS.shtml>.
- Although the court removed the mandate for remote appearances in most civil and probate hearings effective October 1, 2020, appearances in these hearing types will remain **strongly encouraged**. Remote appearances are still required in family law and certain other civil and probate hearing types. Please see the Court's Emergency Local Rules for details.
- Court trials in civil and criminal matters will continue to be heard.
- Juvenile justice and juvenile dependency matters will continue to be heard primarily through remote appearances. Please check with your attorney for further information.

Individuals with pending traffic citations do have the following options to address their pending matters:

- Online Traffic Payments: Individuals may pay their fines online via the court's website at <http://www.placer.courts.ca.gov/online-case-access.shtml>.
- Request a Trial By Written Declaration: Individuals may request that their trial proceed by written declaration. Requests can be made online at <https://webportal.placerco.org/eCourtPublic/>.
- Online Traffic Hearings: The court is developing an option for voluntary appearances on traffic appearances for defendants who wish to be heard in advance of their next hearing date. The court anticipates a mid-February start date for these hearings. Please watch the court's website for further information.
- Sign Up for Traffic School: Individuals may choose to participate in traffic school. Please visit <https://webportal.placerco.org/eCourtPublic/> for more information and to determine if your case is eligible.
- Ability to Pay: Anyone who is unable to pay their traffic fine may complete and submit Judicial Council Form TR-320 (<https://www.courts.ca.gov/documents/tr320.pdf>) to the Court.

The court will continue to hear all felony, family law, and civil hearings as currently set.

In addition to the above, the following additional restrictions remain in effect:

- Remote appearance is available, upon request, for most pre-trial criminal hearings. Remote appearance for preliminary hearings is subject to judicial approval.

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- eDelivery is **mandatory** in family law and civil cases for attorneys and represented parties. Unrepresented parties are encouraged to use the eDelivery system. For more information on eDelivery and how to use the eDelivery system, please visit <http://www.placer.courts.ca.gov/online-edelivery-access.shtml>.
 - The court anticipates moving to a new eFiling system in early-2021. Please watch the court's website for updates.
- The State Department of Public Health has mandated face coverings for anyone entering a public building, including courthouses. Physical distancing protocols have been implemented in the courthouses.
- The court's Self-Help Center has discontinued most in-person services. Please visit the Self-Help Center page on our website to schedule a telephone or video appointment. The court has added limited in-person services for landlord-tenant matters on a temporary basis. The court has also introduced a **new** live chat pilot on its website. Please check the court's website for service hours <http://www.placer.courts.ca.gov/self-help-lhc.shtml>.
- Modified practices remain in effect for those called to jury service. For more information, please visit:
http://www.placer.courts.ca.gov/public_notice/COVID/FAQ%20Jury%20Duty.pdf

The court reminds members of the public that they should only come to the courthouse for official court business or to observe a court hearing. The court continues to strongly discourage individuals who do not have an active role in court hearings from attending court at this time. However, court proceedings will remain open to the public and media who choose to attend.

If you believe you are sick, or are experiencing symptoms of COVID-19 or any other communicable disease, or are subject to quarantine due to close contact with someone who has COVID-19 please contact the Court Clerk's Office at 916-408-6000 for further information. If you have an attorney, contact your attorney first before calling the court. Defendants who have posted bail are encouraged to discuss the bail issues with their attorney and the bail bonding company.

For information on specific cases, please visit the court's website or call 916-408-6000.