



**COVID-19 UPDATES -
FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS FOR CIVIL AND FAMILY LAW**

April 27, 2020

CIVIL

Q: How is the court accepting filings in civil matters?

A: Filings related to temporary guardianships, temporary conservatorships, civil restraining orders including but not limited to civil harassment and elder abuse restraining orders, petitions related to firearms, requests for unlawful detainer stays, and all requests for emergency relief will be accepted at the public counter of the Court Clerk's Office at the Howard G. Gibson Courthouse and the Tahoe City Courthouse. Members of the public who come to the courthouse are reminded to follow social distancing guidelines.

All other filings in civil matters are not currently being accepted at the public counter of the Court Clerk's Office. Instead, filings in civil matters may be submitted to the court via eDelivery (<http://www.placer.courts.ca.gov/online-edelivery-access.shtml>), mailed to the court, or placed in the drop boxes at the Howard G. Gibson Courthouse (Roseville) and Tahoe City Courthouse.

Q: How or when are pending civil matters to be calendared if they were scheduled for hearing during the time emergency orders are in effect?

A: Temporary guardianships, temporary conservatorships, civil restraining orders including but not limited to civil harassment and elder abuse restraining orders, petitions related to firearms, requests for stay for unlawful detainer actions, and all requests for emergency relief remain as scheduled. Civil matters set for a hearing between March 16, 2020, and May 8, 2020 were continued by the court for at least eight weeks to July 1, 2020.

Unless specified below, the court sent notice of the continued hearing date to the parties. Parties may also check the court's website to confirm the date, time and department of the next hearing date.

For civil law and motion matters set between March 19, 2020, and March 27, 2020, tentative rulings were posted on the court's website (www.placer.courts.ca.gov) which advised the parties of the continued hearing date.

For all probate, guardianship and conservatorship hearings (not including temporary guardianships and temporary conservatorships), calendar notes are being posted on the court's website which advise the parties of the continued hearing date. For matters in which



publication of notice is required, the court is also posting calendar notes on the courtroom doors on the date of the hearing in question.

Q: When are responsive briefs due for motions initially set for hearing while emergency orders are in effect?

A: Deadlines for responsive pleadings will track the continued hearing date.

Q: How should parties present urgent discovery motions or other requests for emergency relief?

A: Requests for emergency relief or a request for an order shortening time may be set on the civil ex parte calendar, which is heard every day the court is in operation. Parties who wish to appear on this calendar must reserve a hearing by calling the Court Clerk's Office at 916-408-6000, and must otherwise comply with California Rules of Court, rules 3.1200 *et seq.*

Q: How does the court's continuance of civil trials due to emergency orders affect deadlines which are tied to the trial date, such as the last day to hear discovery motions or summary judgment/adjudication motions?

A: Trial-related deadlines affected by emergency orders, such as the last day to hear discovery motions or summary judgment/adjudication motions, will be continued in conjunction with the continued trial date. This does not include trial-related deadlines which expired prior to March 16, 2020, by operation of statute or other order of the court.

FAMILY

Q: How is the court accepting filings in family law matters?

A: Filings related to domestic violence restraining orders, adoptions, termination of parental rights, freedom from custody and control, and all requests for emergency relief will be accepted at the public counter of the Court Clerk's Office at the Howard G. Gibson Courthouse and the Tahoe City Courthouse. Members of the public who come to the courthouse are reminded to follow social distancing guidelines. Public Health officials recommend members of the public to wear face masks and maintain six feet of physical distance from others when in public.

All other filings in family law matters may be submitted to the court via eDelivery (<http://www.placer.courts.ca.gov/online-edelivery-access.shtml>), mailed to the court, or placed in the drop boxes at the Howard G. Gibson Courthouse (Roseville) and Tahoe City Courthouse.

If a party is self-represented and does not have access to eDelivery, the party may choose filing by mail or drop box. If further assistance is needed for a self-represented party, that party may access the self-help center by a telephonic appearance or remote appearance. Please see the self-help section of the court's website (<http://www.placer.courts.ca.gov/self-help-info.shtml>).



Q: How or when are pending family matters to be reset if they were set for hearing while emergency orders are in effect?

A: Family law matters set for a hearing between March 16, 2020, and May 8, 2020 (except for hearings related to domestic violence restraining orders, adoptions, termination of parental rights, freedom from custody and control, and all requests for emergency relief), were continued by the court at least eight weeks.

Unless specified below, the court sent notice of the continued hearing date to the parties. Parties may also look up their next court date on the court's website.

Q: When are responsive briefs due for motions initially set for hearing while emergency orders are in effect?

A: Responsive deadlines will track the continued hearing date.

Q: How should parties present urgent discovery motions or other requests for emergency relief?

A: Requests for emergency relief or requests for orders shortening time may be set on the family ex parte calendar, which are heard at 8:30 a.m. Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday, and Friday. Parties who wish to appear on the morning calendars must file their request by 10:00 a.m. the business day prior. All requests must otherwise comply with California Rules of Court, rules 3.1200 *et seq.*

Q: How does the court's continuance of family law trials due to emergency orders affect dates or deadlines which are tied to the trial date, such as the scheduled mandatory settlement conferences or the filing of the Statement of Issues and Contentions, Income and Expense Declarations and Witness Lists?

A: Trial-related deadlines affected by emergency orders, including the mandatory settlement conference and trial confirming conferences, will be continued in conjunction with the continued trial date. This does not include trial-related deadlines which expired prior to March 16, 2020, by operation of statute or other order of the court.