



Superior Court of California County of Orange

Civil Limited, Unlimited and Complex

UPDATE – Thursday, April 30, 2020

Effective Tuesday, March 17, 2020, the Orange County Superior Court significantly reduced services to the public due to the COVID-19 pandemic. At this time, only matters identified as time sensitive or pertain to the safety and security of our community will be heard.

Civil Limited, Unlimited, Complex

The court will be available for the following Civil Limited, Unlimited and Complex related service:

1. Emergency Civil Temporary Injunctions (CRC 3.1150)

Requests for emergency relief per CRC 3.1120 shall be submitted via email as follows:

- Email: Submit applicable forms/petitions to CivilUrgent@occourts.org (Note: eFiling should not be used for these filings during the period of reduced services)
- Any required appearance shall be done via court call or via video when ordered by the court.
- If filing fees are due, notice of fees due will be included and fees will be collected at the next court hearing

2. Opposition to Claim of Exemption

The court will accept and process filings for Notice of Opposition to Claim of Exemption as follows:

- Email: Submit applicable forms to CivilUrgent@occourts.org
- Paper: Alternatively, submit applicable forms/petitions in person at Central Justice Center via the drop box by the front entrance
- For assistance, Self Help Services will be available onsite at Central Justice Center. Follow the instructions posted on the front entrance by the table
- The filing will be processed and scheduled for hearing after June 15, 2020 with notice to all parties.

As a result of reduced services during the COVID-19 crisis, the court will reschedule Civil Limited, Unlimited and Complex hearings as follows:

1. **Trials in progress** as of March 17, 2020 will be vacated and a Status Conference will be set for June 15, 2020, with notice to all parties.

2. **Trial dates** for all trials scheduled to begin as of March 17, 2020 forward will be rescheduled approximately 25 weeks from the currently scheduled trial date, with notice to all parties.
 - The rescheduling of the trial date resets all dates tied to the trial date.
 - Modification to the newly set trial dates will be considered by the court via stipulation and order.
 - Trials approaching the 5 year or 3 year deadlines set forth in Civil Code of Procedure sections 538.310 and 583.320, and subject to California Rules of Court Emergency Rule 10, will be granted preference by separate minute order.
3. **Mandatory Settlement Conferences (MSC)** set as of March 17, 2020 forward will be rescheduled approximately 21 weeks from the currently scheduled MSC date, with notice to all parties.
4. **Civil Limited and Unlimited Unlawful Detainer hearings** set from March 17, 2020 through June 30, 2020 will be rescheduled in priority order for a date after June 15, 2020, with notice to all parties. All hearings will be heard at the Central Justice Center. At this time, there is no change to hearings scheduled on or after July 1, 2020.
5. **All other Civil Limited, Unlimited, and Complex hearings** set as of March 17, 2020 forward, including law and motion matters, will be rescheduled approximately 13 weeks from the currently scheduled hearing date, with notice to all parties. Hearings will resume the week of June 15, 2020.
6. Pursuant to California Rule of Court 3.720(b) and a forthcoming local rule, no **Case Management Conference (CMC)** hearings will be heard through December 31, 2020.

For cases not deemed complex:

- All currently scheduled CMC hearings are vacated and a Mandatory Settlement Conference (MSC) and Trial date will be scheduled 19 to 21 months from the date the case was filed.
- Cases filed that have not been previously set for CMC and new cases filed through December 31, 2020 not already exempt from case management review (e.g. unlawful detainers and cases exempt under the California Rules of Court), will not be set for CMC hearing. MSC and Trial dates will be scheduled 19 to 21 months from the date the case was filed.

For cases deemed complex:

- All currently scheduled CMC hearings are vacated and a Status Conference hearing will be scheduled after June 15, 2020.
- Cases filed that have not been previously set for CMC and new cases filed through December 31, 2020 will have a Status Conference hearing scheduled within 120 days from the date the case was filed.