



Superior Court of California County of Orange

Chambers of
KIRK H. NAKAMURA
PRESIDING JUDGE

700 CIVIC CENTER DRIVE WEST
SANTA ANA, CA 92701

ADMINISTRATIVE ORDER NO. 20/23 PROCEDURE FOR CONDUCTING REMOTE TRAFFIC PROCEEDINGS

This Order establishes the procedure for conducting proceedings in traffic cases, other than court trials, to ensure the orderly administration of justice, provide adequate personnel, facilities, and resources, and protect the health and safety of court users and court personnel.

The World Health Organization, the United States Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, the State of California, and the County of Orange have recognized that the world, country, state, and county face a life-threatening pandemic caused by the COVID-19 virus. The CDC, the California Department of Public Health, and the Orange County Health Care Agency have recommended stringent social distancing measures of at least six feet between people to mitigate the spread of the virus. The combined impacts of the COVID-19 pandemic, social distancing measures, and court closure have significantly impacted the Court's capacity to conduct traffic proceedings.

Additionally, significant backlogs are continuing to accrue in Traffic, such that the implementation of protocols enabling these proceedings to go forward must be implemented without delay.

It is hereby ordered that all traffic proceedings (infraction and misdemeanor), except court trials, shall be conducted via remote video hearing.

Defendants will remotely appear for their traffic proceeding using their own devices. If a defendant does not have his or her own device capable of effectuating the required appearance, the Court will provide a location and device where defendant can appear remotely for the hearing.

If at any time during a remote hearing the judicial officer determines that a personal appearance is necessary, the court may continue the matter and require a personal appearance.

July 16, 2020

Each court conducting traffic proceedings (infraction and misdemeanor) will be outfitted with a camera to allow live streaming of courtroom proceedings available to the public. Any member of the public wishing to view the proceedings can log on to the Court's public website at <https://www.occourts.org/media-relations/LiveStream.html/> for viewing information. It is the policy of the Court not to preserve the live streaming for later viewing.

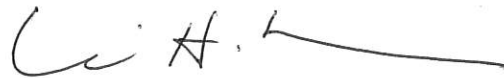
This Order is adopted pursuant to the authority granted the Orange County Superior Court by California Rules of Court, Emergency Rule 3, to require that judicial proceedings and court operations be conducted remotely so that the Court may continue to provide access to justice and essential services to the public while protecting the health and safety of court users and court personnel during the pandemic.

This Order is effective immediately and shall remain in effect until the Governor declares that the state of emergency related to the COVID-19 pandemic is lifted, or until amended or ordered otherwise. This relief is temporary, intended to address the current COVID-19 pandemic as it poses a challenge conducting traffic proceedings.

IT IS SO ORDERED.

7/16/20

Date



Kirk H. Nakamura
Presiding Judge