



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE: December 7, 2020

Changes to Santa Clara County Superior Court Operations: December 2020

In response to the recent surge in coronavirus cases and hospitalizations and consistent with the Santa Clara County Health Officer's implementation of the State's [Regional Stay At Home Orders](#), the Santa Clara County Superior Court continues to take action to limit the number of people in a courthouse at any one time.

Effective immediately, the Court has established [metering procedures and capacity requirements](#) at each courthouse facility. The County Health Officer has ordered governmental facilities to limit indoor areas accessible to the public to 20% capacity. Due to the Court's status as essential critical infrastructure ([Sector Index 8 – Government Operations and Other Community-Based Essential Functions](#)), if the capacity limitation cannot be achieved, capacity should be limited to as low a number as possible that still allows essential governmental functions to be performed.

The Court **will not** be calling new jury panels until at least January 4, 2021.

The Traffic Courthouse, on Homestead Road, is currently closed to the public. An outdoor drop box is available for filing traffic documents with the Court.

Court operations and proceedings will be significantly reduced during the [Winter Holiday Furlough Schedule](#), from December 21, 2020, until January 4, 2021.

Additional changes to court operations for all divisions can be found by visiting our [website](#).

Since the resumption of court services and phased reopening of the courthouses earlier this year, the Court has taken measures to keep court users and staff safe during the COVID-19 pandemic, including:

- Increased efforts to clean and sanitize high traffic areas;
- Mandating the use of double-layer face coverings in the courthouse;
- Staggering the start times for hearing calendars;
- Reducing the number of matters on each calendar;
- Installing remote appearance technology in courtrooms;
- Installing plexiglass in open courtrooms; and
- Providing hand sanitizer throughout the courthouse and in courtrooms.

"The Court is making every effort to adhere to the guidance from our Department of Public Health to keep our citizens safe. Maintaining court access and availability is critical to protecting children, victims of domestic violence and other crimes, people in locked facilities including those incarcerated, and all parties who have disputes and other matters needing resolution. The Court continues to strike a balance between the right of access to justice and the health and safety of all of us in the community," said Presiding Judge Deborah A. Ryan.

How to Contact the Court:

HOW TO CONTACT THE COURT 	01 Court Website: www.scscourt.org	03 By Telephone:
	02 By Email:	
COMUNICARSE CON LA CORTE	Civil Criminal Family Jury Juvenile Probate Small Claims Traffic	Civil (408) 882-2100 Criminal (408) 808-6600 Family (408) 882-2700 Jury (408) 808-6666 Juvenile (408) 808-6200 Probate (408) 882-2100 Small Claims (408) 882-2100 Traffic (408) 556-3000
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