



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE: April 10, 2020

## General Order RE: Statewide Emergency Bail Schedule

*Presiding Judge Deborah A. Ryan orders the adoption of the statewide Emergency Bail Schedule required by the Judicial Council of California*

SAN JOSÉ, California (April 10, 2020): On April 6, 2020, the Judicial Council approved and adopted [11 temporary emergency rules](#) in response to the COVID-19 pandemic. Included among the rules is Emergency Rule 4, a statewide Emergency Bail Schedule designed to promulgate uniformity in the handling of certain offenses. The statewide Emergency Bail Schedule must be applied by all 58 California counties no later than 5:00 PM on April 13, 2020.

Presiding Judge Deborah A. Ryan has today issued an order (attached) in compliance with this requirement. In doing so, she comments, “The Court, like the rest of the community, is concerned about public safety and health during this time of crisis and will continue to work with its justice partner stakeholders to ensure that these concerns are appropriately addressed.”

This Order will remain in effect until ninety days after the Governor declares that the state of emergency related to the COVID-19 pandemic is lifted, or until amended or repealed by the Judicial Council.



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The statewide Emergency Bail Schedule shall be applied to all persons arrested and to all persons held in pretrial custody with the exception of 13 offenses listed in the schedule. The Santa Clara County Court's 2020 Bail Schedule, including the [April 1<sup>st</sup> Emergency Amendment](#), remains in effect for all offenses included in the 13 excepted offenses, including any enhancements.

To address the COVID-19 pandemic and on the advice of public health officials, one of the first priorities of the criminal justice system was to reduce the jail population of approximately 3300 people by at least 20 percent. This reduction would allow for proper social distancing within the jails, and for the ability to quarantine individuals who test positive for the virus. The Santa Clara County Superior Court worked closely with its justice partner stakeholders including the Offices of the District Attorney, Public Defender, Alternate Defender, Independent Defender, Probation and Pretrial Services to identify incarcerated individuals who could be released from custody consistent with public safety, while being mindful of public health concerns created by COVID-19. Efforts were undertaken to identify individuals who the parties jointly agreed were eligible and suitable for release. As of today's date, the jail population has been reduced by over 20 percent.

The Court also adopted an emergency amendment to its 2020 Bail Schedule which authorized, with certain exceptions, citation and release of those accused of misdemeanors and felonies where the bail schedule called for bail of \$25,000 or less. The Court did so following receipt of an advisory letter from the Chief Justice of California that recommended, among other things emergency revisions to the countywide bail schedules to prevent the spread of COVID-19 in the jail. These efforts resulted in significant jail population reduction.



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**FILED**

Clerk of the Court  
Superior Court of CA County of Santa Clara  
BY David K. Walker DEPUTY

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**SUPERIOR COURT OF THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA  
IN AND FOR THE COUNTY OF SANTA CLARA**

In Re )  
APPLICATION OF EMERGENCY ) ORDER APPLYING STATEWIDE  
STATEWIDE BAIL SCHEDULE ) EMERGENCY BAIL SCHEDULE  
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GOOD CAUSE APPEARING, the Court orders application of the attached statewide  
Emergency Bail Schedule adopted by the Judicial Council on April 6, 2020. This mandated  
schedule shall be applied to all accused persons arrested and in pretrial custody, and to all accused  
persons held in pretrial custody, beginning no later than 5:00 p.m. on April 13, 2020.

This order will remain in effect until ninety days after the Governor declares that the state of  
emergency related to the COVID-19 pandemic is lifted, or until amended or repealed by order of  
the Judicial Council.


**EMERGENCY STATEWIDE BAIL SCHEDULE**

Bail for all misdemeanor and felony offenses must be set at \$0, with the exception of only the  
offenses listed below:

- 1. A serious felony, as defined in Penal Code section 1192.7(c), or a violent felony, as  
defined in Penal Code section 667.5(c);



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