



**SUPERIOR COURT OF CALIFORNIA
COUNTY OF MERCED**

www.merced.courts.ca.gov

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AMANDA TOSTE
COURT EXECUTIVE OFFICER
and
JURY COMMISSIONER

NOTICE to all litigants and attorneys appearing in Department 7.

Pursuant to Standing Order #2020-04 of the Merced Superior Court filed 3/17/2020, the following procedures will be instituted for all matters set for hearing in Department 7 and 13 (family law matters hearing in the morning) of the Merced Superior Court through April 28, 2020.

1. Department 7 and 13 will remain open to the public during this time period. However, to reduce the potential spread of COVID-19 to all concerned, the Superior Court is permitting telephonic appearance for all parties and counsel from March 17, 2020 through April 28, 2020. CourtCall will not be used for such appearances, though, parties may use this service if they so choose. Instead, parties and counsel shall be called by the Court at the time scheduled for hearing of their matter at the telephone number on file with the Family Law Clerk's office. Parties scheduled for hearing at 8:45 a.m. should be available to receive a call from the Court between 8:45 a.m. and noon. Parties scheduled for hearing at 1:30 p.m. should be available to receive a call from the Court between 1:30 p.m. and 4:00 p.m.. You are not required to appear telephonically for your hearing. You may still appear in Department 7 or 13; however, you are encouraged to appear telephonically for your health and the health of others.
2. All non-emergency Status Conferences, Trial Settings, Settlement Conferences and Court Trials shall be continued to a date after April 28, 2020. Parties are encouraged to meet and confer upon an agreed continuance date which is cleared with the Clerk's office and submit a Stipulated Order continuing their matter. Parties may also appear (as outlined in item 1 above) at the appointed time to continue their hearing/trial with the assistance of the court.
3. All CCRC shall be conducted by telephone between March 17, 2020 and April 28, 2020. Parties will be contacted at the telephone number on file with the Family Law Clerk's office. If your number has changed since you last provided information to the Court, please update this information with the Court prior to your mediation. You will be asked at the time of CCRC to provide an email address where your CCRC Agreement or Recommendation/Rationale can be sent as soon as it is ready. If you do not have an email, please provide a mailing address so that your documents can be mailed to you.