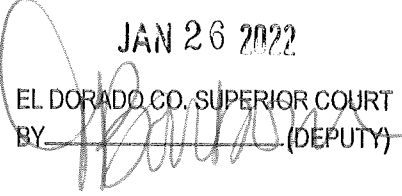


**SUPERIOR COURT OF CALIFORNIA
COUNTY OF EL DORADO**

495 Main Street
Placerville, CA 95667

FILED

JAN 26 2022

EL DORADO CO. SUPERIOR COURT
BY  (DEPUTY)

DATE: January 26, 2022
JUDGE: Vicki Ashworth, Presiding Judge
CLERK: Shelby Wineinger

**THIRD INTERIM ADMINISTRATIVE ORDER RE: COVID-19 PROTOCOLS
AND MODIFICATIONS TO COURT OPERATIONS**

Pursuant to the authority of the presiding judge to control matters before the El Dorado County Superior Court (Court), the Second Interim Administrative Order Re: COVID-19 Protocols and Modifications to Court Operations, issued December 14, 2021, is superseded by this order.

Consistent with the declarations of a state of emergency by federal and state governments due to the COVID-19 pandemic; Governor Newsom's Executive Orders [N-07-21](#) and [N-08-21](#) issued June 11, 2021; the State Public Health Officer Order of June 11, 2021; the California Department of Public Health (CDPH) [Guidance for the Use of Face Coverings](#); the CDPH [Guidance for Local Health Jurisdictions on Isolation and Quarantine of the General Public](#); and as permitted under the California Occupational Safety and Health Standards Board's [COVID-19 Emergency Temporary Standards](#), the COVID-19 protocols and modifications to Court operations outlined within this order become effective immediately. This order will remain in effect until the Governor declares that the state of emergency related to the COVID-19 pandemic is lifted, or until amended or revoked by the presiding judge of this Court.

COVID-19 Protocols

- A. Regardless of vaccination status, all members of the public, including attorneys, parties and vendors, must wear a face covering while inside a Court facility unless an exemption applies per the CDPH Guidance for the Use of Face Coverings (e.g., persons younger than two (2) years, a medical condition, mental health condition or disability that prevents wearing a face covering). Face coverings must not have visible holes or openings and must cover the nose, mouth and chin. Acceptable face coverings include cloth (multiple layers of tightly woven fabric that does not allow light to pass through when held up to a light source) or higher-quality medical masks (surgical, KN94, KN95 or N95). Unacceptable face coverings are those with a valve, neck gaiter, bandanna or handkerchief.
- B. Physical distancing of at least six (6) feet and capacity limitations is not enforced in a Court facility, however distancing from others is recommended when feasible.

- C. Before entering a Court facility, all individuals must self-screen for COVID-19 symptoms. Individuals are not permitted in a Court facility if they are: experiencing symptoms of COVID-19; subject to isolation due to a COVID-19 diagnosis or a positive COVID-19 test within the last 10 days; or subject to quarantine due to a close contact exposure to someone who has COVID-19. Contact the Clerk's Office for options. For contact information visit <https://eldorado.courts.ca.gov/general-information/locations-contact-information>.

Modifications to Court Operations

A. Use of technology for remote appearances.

1. Please refer to the Emergency Rules Related to COVID-19 of the California Rules of Court.
2. The Court will determine when the use of technology can be implemented to allow for remote appearance (i.e., telephone or video conferencing) as permitted pursuant to applicable emergency orders, rules and statute to include California Rules of Court, rule 3.672.
3. Remote video streaming is limited to certain court proceedings. Each judicial officer, however, retains the discretion and authority to refuse, limit or terminate such broadcasts, in whole or part, pursuant to the provisions of California Rules of Court, rule 1.120, and in consideration of other statutory and constitutional provisions. Livestreamed court proceedings may not be photographed, recorded (audio or video) or re-broadcast without prior judicial authorization.

B. Remote appearances.

1. Each department will determine those calendars or matters in which hearings may be held by remote appearance based on applicable emergency orders, rules and statute to include California Rules of Court, rule 3.672.
2. The Court will arrange for remote appearances and will notice parties on hearings set for remote appearance. When applicable, the Court will also coordinate with justice partners on calendars and/or matters to be heard remotely.
3. Standing Order Re: Appearances in Departments 9 & 10, issued July 12, 2021, is revoked.

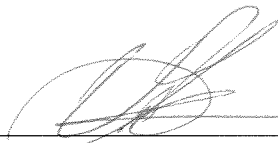
C. Clerk's Offices.

All branches will temporarily reduce service hours for clerk's offices and telephones. The temporary hours will be 8:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. As an alternative to in-person clerk's office visits, there are various options for conducting court business, as summarized below:

- *Drop boxes* are available at all Court facilities for filings. Filings presented to the Court may be placed in the drop boxes. Filings placed in the drop boxes after 4:00 p.m. will be filed by the Court on the next court day.
- *Record search requests* may be submitted by mail or fax. For information on how to submit a record search request visit <https://eldorado.courts.ca.gov/online-services/record-search-requests>.
- *Online options* allow court users to fax file documents and make certain traffic and criminal payments online. For more information visit <https://eldorado.courts.ca.gov/>.

IT IS SO ORDERED.

Dated: January 26, 2022



VICKI ASHWORTH
Presiding Judge of the Superior Court of California