

SUPERIOR COURT OF THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA
IN AND FOR THE COUNTY OF KINGS

FILED

MAR 23 2021

MICHELLE S. MARTINEZ, CLERK OF COURT
SUPERIOR COURT OF THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA
COUNTY OF KINGS

DEPUTY

GENERAL ORDER RE: IMPLEMENTATION OF EMERGENCY RELIEF

AUTHORIZED BY THE CHAIR OF THE JUDICIAL COUNCIL

EMERGENCY ORDER OF MARCH 23RD, 2021

WHEREAS the World Health Organization, The United States Centers for Disease Control and Prevention and the State of California Department of Public Health have recognized that the world, country, and state face a life-threatening pandemic caused by the COVID-19 virus.

WHEREAS as of March 23rd, 2021, the World Health Organization has reported 123,419,065 confirmed cases of COVID-19 worldwide with 2,719,163 deaths caused by the virus.

WHEREAS as of March 22nd, 2021 the Center for Disease Control has reported 29,708,385 confirmed cases of COVID-19 in 50 states and 4 territories of the United States of America, 540,503 of which have resulted in deaths.

WHEREAS as of March 23rd, 2021 the California Department of Public Health has reported 3,549,101 confirmed cases of the COVID-19 virus in the state of California causing 56,546 deaths.

WHEREAS as of March 23rd, 2021 the Kings County Department of Public Health has reported 15,327 confirmed cases of the COVID-19 virus in the community with an additional 7,205 cases in the State Prisons located in Kings County for a total of 22,532 positive COVID-19 cases in Kings County causing 239 deaths.

WHEREAS the World Health organization, the Center for Disease Control, California Department of Public Health, and the Kings County Department of Public Health have all recommended social distancing practices of staying at least six feet apart and the prohibition of gathering in groups as the best method to prevent the contraction and spread of the COVID-19 virus.

WHEREAS on March 4, 2020 California Governor Gavin Newsom declared a state of emergency in California because of the COVID-19 virus.

WHEREAS on March 13, 2020 the President of the United States declared a national emergency because of the COVID-19 virus.

WHEREAS on March 19, 2020 Governor Newsom issued Executive Order N-33-20, requiring all residents of the State of California to stay home and shelter in place.

WHEREAS on March 23, 2020 the Chief Justice of the California Supreme Court and Chair of the Judicial Council, the Honorable Tani G. Cantil-Sakauye, issued a state-wide order recognizing the Courts in the State of California are ill –equipped to effectively

allow social distancing and other recommendations by public health experts required to protect people involved in court proceedings and to prevent the spread of the COVID-19 virus.

WHEREAS on March 23, 2020 the Chief Justice of the California Supreme Court and Chair of the Judicial Council, the Honorable Tani G. Cantil-Sakauye, issued a statewide order suspending all jury trials for 60 days from the date of her order and the time period for bringing a case to jury trial for 60 days from the date her order.

WHEREAS on March 27, 2020 Governor Newsom issued executive order N-38-20 suspending all legal authorities that impede the use of technology in court proceedings and authorized the Chair of the Judicial Council to extend deadlines for certain court proceedings until 90 days after the state of emergency related to COVID-19 is lifted.

WHEREAS in order to protect the health and safety of the public, court employees, attorney's, litigants, judicial officers, law enforcement officers and the staff and inmates in detention facilities, on March 30, 2020 the Chief Justice of the California Supreme Court and Chair of the Judicial Council, the Honorable Tani G. Cantil-Sakauye, issued a state wide emergency order authorizing trial courts to make orders extending deadlines for certain court proceedings and for the use of technology to conduct legal proceedings.

WHEREAS On March 18, April 14, June 15, July 14, August 17, September 16, October 21, November 19th, December 17, 2020, January 21, 2021, February 18th, 2021 and March 22nd, 2021 The Honorable Tani G. Cantil-Sakauye, Chief Justice of the California Supreme Court and Chair of the Judicial Council determined that the conditions described in Government Code section 68115(a) continue to exist in Kings County and therefore she authorized this Court to issue an implementation order extending the deadline for jury trials.

WHEREAS after balancing the Constitutional due process rights of parties in criminal and civil cases with the health and safety of these parties, the public, court staff, judicial officers, attorneys, witnesses, jurors, law enforcement officers, deputy Sheriffs, probation officers and other persons present during court proceedings;

IT IS HEREBY ORDERED THAT:

1. The time period provided in Penal Code section 1382 for the holding of a criminal trial is extended by no more than 30 days from the last date on which the statutory deadline otherwise would have expired. This order is applicable only to cases in which the original or previously extended statutory deadline otherwise would expire from March 25th, 2021 to April 26th, 2021, inclusive (Gov. Code section 68115(a)(10); Executive Order N-38-20 (03-27-2020)).
2. The time periods provided in sections 583.310 and 583.320 of the Code of Civil Procedure to bring an action to trial are extended by not more than 30 days, applicable only to cases in which the deadline otherwise would expire from March 25th, 2021 to April 26th, 2021, inclusive (Government Code section 68115(a)(6))

3. These extensions are in addition to any relief provided pursuant to any specific emergency order issued under a subdivision of Government Code section 68115 related to any other extension or form of relief.
4. The Kings County Superior Court is to make use of available technology, when possible, to conduct judicial proceedings and court operations remotely.
5. Any statute, local rule or California Rule of Court which would prevent the court from using technology to conduct judicial proceedings and court operations remotely are suspended.

Dated: 03/23, 2021



Robert Shane Burns, Presiding Judge
Kings County Superior Court

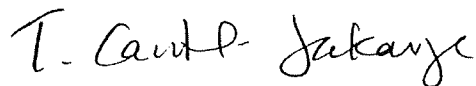
THE JUDICIAL COUNCIL OF THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA

Because of the COVID-19 pandemic, leading to health and safety concerns resulting in substantial operational impediments, and the proclamations of states of emergency by federal, state, and local officials, it was determined on eleven prior occasions that the conditions described in Government Code section 68115 were met with regard to the Superior Court of California, County of Kings (Court). Based on those determinations, and pursuant to the Court's requests, corresponding emergency orders issued authorizing the Court to implement certain relief under Government Code section 68115. Upon the renewed request of Presiding Judge Robert Shane Burns, it now is determined that the conditions described in Government Code section 68115(a) continue to exist (Gov. Code, § 68115(c)), and it is ordered that the Court is authorized to do the following:

- Extend the time periods provided in sections 583.310 and 583.320 of the Code of Civil Procedure to bring an action to trial by not more than 30 days, applicable only to cases in which the deadline otherwise would expire from March 25, 2021, to April 26, 2021, inclusive (Gov. Code, § 68115(a)(6)); and
- Extend the time period provided in section 1382 of the Penal Code (section 1382) for the holding of a criminal trial by not more than 30 days, applicable only to cases in which the original or previously

extended statutory deadline otherwise would expire from March 25, 2021, to April 26, 2021, inclusive (Gov. Code, § 68115(a)(10)).*

Date: March 22, 2021



Hon. Tani G. Cantil-Sakauye
Chief Justice of California and
Chair of the Judicial Council

* This authority supplements the authority to extend section 1382 deadlines granted to the Court in prior emergency orders. Accordingly, for any case in which the time to bring a defendant to trial previously was extended under one or more prior emergency order, and the extended deadline falls within the above-specified time period, this order authorizes the Court to extend the previously extended deadline by up to an additional 30 days. For any case in which the initial section 1382 deadline falls within the above-specified time period and is not governed by a prior emergency order, this order authorizes the Court to extend the time to bring a defendant to trial by a total of up to 30 days.