



Superior Court
State of California
County of Lake
255 N. Forbes Street
Lakeport, California 95453
707-263-2374

MICHAEL S. LUNAS

PRESIDING JUDGE

KRISTA D. LEVIER

COURT EXECUTIVE/CLERK
JURY COMMISSIONER

COVID-19 PANDEMIC UPDATE: LAKE COUNTY SUPERIOR COURT CONTINUES REMOTE PROCEEDINGS IN JULY-JURY TRIALS SET TO BEGIN

Issued: June 22, 2020

On March 18, 2020, Lake County Health Officer issued a Shelter in Place Order for Lake County. On March 19, 2020 Governor Newsom issued an Executive Order ordering all Californians to stay at home. As of today, both orders remain in place. Even as reopening continues, the COVID-19 restrictions remain and it is apparent that social distancing, limits on gatherings, and mandatory face coverings will remain in place for weeks and, in some form, potentially months to come.

The court provides an essential government service and has taken significant steps in an effort to comply with the Health Officer's Orders and to protect court users and staff from the spread of COVID-19. As the court continues to reopen and provide in-person services to the public, we have limited the number of cases on calendar, will require social distancing in court facilities, will require face coverings and will continue to handle matters via remote means whenever possible.

Remote Court Hearings

The court will continue to hold the following hearings by remote appearance for the month of July. All attorneys and parties **MUST APPEAR BY PHONE/VIDEO** as directed by the court. The court will provide instructions for the remote appearance. Hearing dates for the following calendars will remain as presently set.

- Daily In-custody Criminal Arraignments
- Juvenile Detention Hearings
- Felony Law & Motion, Department 3, Tuesdays at 8:15 am
- Sentencings, Department 3, Mondays at 1:30 pm
- Misdemeanor Disposition/Setting and Motions, Department 1, Mondays at 8:15 am and 1:30 pm
- Misdemeanor Settlement Conferences, Department 1, Tuesdays at 1:30 pm
- Civil Law & Motion, Department 2, Mondays at 9:00 am
- Civil Case Management, Department 2, Mondays at 10:30 am
- Conservatorships, Department 2, Mondays at 1:30 pm
- Probate, Department 2, Mondays at 2:00 pm
- Department of Child Support Services Family Support, Clearlake Branch Tuesdays at 9:00 am
- Domestic Violence Restraining Orders, Department 2, Tuesdays at 8:15 am
- Family Law & Motion, Department 2, Tuesdays at 10:00 am
- Juvenile Delinquency and Dependency Calendars, Mondays, 8:15am/1:30pm, Department 4

- Civil Harassment Restraining Order Calendar, Tuesdays, 8:15am, Department 4
- Civil Settlement Calendar, Tuesdays, 9:00 am, Department 4

Trials and Contested Hearings

The court will continue conducting in-person trials or contested hearings which will be direct set for Wednesdays, Thursdays and Fridays. The number of cases set on a given date/time have been limited to allow for appropriate social distancing.

Felony Law & Motion, Preliminary Hearings

The felony law and motion calendar will be held by remote appearance. However, out-of-custody defendants ordered to appear will be required to attend in person. Preliminary hearings will continue to be held in person.

Misdemeanor Arraignment Calendar

The misdemeanor arraignment calendar will continue to be held in person. The number of cases set on a given date/time have been limited to allow for appropriate social distancing.

Jury Trials

The court will begin conducting jury trials July 8, 2020, as necessary. If you receive a jury summons for a date after July 8, 2020 you are required to appear. Steps have been taken to minimize the risk to jurors, including reducing the number of jurors who are summoned to appear at one time. Jurors who are unable to serve because they are high-risk for COVID-19 related complications, will be excused prior to coming to the courthouse. Additional details about the excusal process and precautions will be provided with the jury summons.

Clearlake Branch Operations: Small Claims/Traffic/Unlawful Detainer

The Clearlake Branch will continue to hold court calendars in-person. The number of cases set on calendar have been limited and staff will be limit the number of people who enter the building to ensure proper social distancing.

Self-Help Center

The Self-Help Center will continue to provide service by remote means only. Litigants can contact the Self-Help Center by phone (707) 994-4612, or email self.help@lake.courts.ca.gov for assistance.

Court Clerk's Offices

The Court Clerk's Offices continue to be open to the public daily from 8:00 am to 4:00 pm. The public is encouraged to continue to make use of the drop-box whenever possible, to avoid a person-to-person interaction.

As the situation is quickly evolving, we will keep the public up to date on our website www.lake.courts.ca.gov.

All Judicial Council forms may be found at <https://www.courts.ca.gov/forms.htm>.