

NEWS RELEASE

SUPERIOR COURT OF CALIFORNIA COUNTY OF NAPA 825 Brown Street Napa, CA 94559 www.napa.courts.ca.gov

707-299-1100

Mark Boessenecker Presiding Judge

Robert E. Fleshman Court Executive Officer Release Date: July 24, 2020

NAPA SUPERIOR COURT EXPANDS USE OF REMOTE APPEARANCES IN COURT PROCEEDINGS

NAPA, CA—As part of comprehensive efforts to reduce foot traffic in court facilities, the Napa Superior Court recently completed the installation of video technology to support remote appearances in all active courtrooms.

Mandatory Remote Appearances

Given the ongoing public health emergency, the court is taking additional steps to further reduce in-person interactions. The next phase will include the implementation of mandatory remote appearances in several calendars starting the week of July 27. These calendars include:

Departments A/B in the Historic Courthouse

- 8:30 a.m. Civil Law and Motion
- 9:00 a.m. LPS Conservatorships
- 9:00 a.m. Mental Health
- 11:30 a.m. Civil Ex Parte

Department C in the Historic Courthouse

8:30 a.m. Master Family Law* (Mondays)

Department 6 in the Criminal Courthouse

- 8:30 a.m. Restraining Order* (Tuesdays)
- 10:00 a.m. Self-represented Family Law* (Tuesdays)
- 11:30 a.m. Family Law Ex Parte

*Hearings set from this calendar may be via video conference or in person, as determined by the judicial officer.

Also, beginning the week of August 3, the 1:30 p.m. Small Claims calendar on Thursdays in Department C (Historic Courthouse) will transition to mandatory remote appearances. Information about remote appearances can be found on the court's website here: <u>http://www.napa.courts.ca.gov/Remote</u>.

The implementation of mandatory remote appearances represents a broader effort of health and safety protocols launched in response to the coronavirus pandemic to provide a safe environment for attorneys, litigants, and staff. Other examples include: a mask/face covering requirement, hand sanitizer stations in public areas and courtrooms, social distancing signage and floor markings and sneeze guards installed in clerk offices and witness stands. The court has also rolled out remote appearances options in self-help and mediation services.

Please direct any questions to the Court Executive Office at 707-299-1110 or <u>Court.Administration@napa.courts.ca.gov</u>.