

Superior Court of California
COUNTY OF
SAN LUIS OBISPO



Jacquelyn H. Duffy, Presiding Judge
Michael Powell, Executive Officer

Courthouse Annex
1035 Palm St., Rm 385
San Luis Obispo, California 93408
www.slo.courts.ca.gov

**SAN LUIS OBISPO COUNTY SUPERIOR COURT
FAMILY LAW DIVISION
NOTICE OF MODIFIED OPERATIONS**

Last Updated 05/14/2020

In response to the COVID-19 (coronavirus) pandemic, and pursuant to (1) the proclamation of a state of emergency by federal, state, and local officials; and (2) the emergency orders issued by Chief Justice Tani Cantil-Sakauye and Presiding Judge Jacquelyn Duffy, the Court has significantly modified its operations. Accordingly, the Family Law Division has modified its operations as follows.

Hearings: All family law hearings that were pending as of March 16, 2020, have been continued to a future date. This includes hearings calendared in all family law courtrooms: Department P1 Judge Federman; Department 4 Judge Peron; and Department 11 Commissioner Childs.

The Court has issued orders to all parties advising of the next hearing date. Hearings will be conducted remotely, either by CourtCall or Zoom. Please check the notice for your case for instructions on how to participate in the hearing.

EPOs, TROs, and Ex Parte Applications: The Family Law bench officers continue to review ex parte applications and requests for emergency protective orders and temporary restraining orders. Pursuant to the Local Rules, all papers submitted by counsel shall be e-filed. Self-represented litigants may e-file; or may file papers by mailing them to the Court; or by placing them in the drop boxes located at the San Luis Obispo Courthouse (Monterey and Palm Street entrances).

Hearings on Requests for Domestic Violence Restraining Orders: Beginning April 20, 2020, all pre-trial hearings on domestic violence restraining orders will be conducted remotely via CourtCall or Zoom. Please check the notice for your case for instructions on how to participate in the hearing. When the matter is ready to be set for a trial or evidentiary hearing, the Court will schedule a date and time for the parties and witnesses to participate in the trial, which may include conducting the trial remotely.

Please see the Court's website for self-help materials for domestic violence restraining orders and responses at <https://www.slo.courts.ca.gov/sh/>.

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Request for Order Calendars: Requests for Orders pending as of March 16, 2020, have been continued and set for new hearing dates. Beginning May 18, 2020, all Request for Order calendars will be conducted remotely via CourtCall or Zoom. Please check the notice for your case for instructions on how to participate in the hearing. In order to facilitate the timely processing of filed documents prior to the hearing date, all papers should be timely filed pursuant to statute. (See Cal. Code Civ. P. § 1005 (responsive papers shall be filed at least 9 court days before the hearing; replies shall be filed at least 5 court days before the hearing).)

When the matter is ready to be set for a trial or evidentiary hearing, the Court will schedule a date and time for the parties and witnesses to participate in the trial or evidentiary hearing, which may include conducting the hearing remotely.

Requests for Order: Option to Waive a Hearing: If all parties to a Request for Order agree in writing, they may request that the Court rule on a Request for Order without a hearing. The Court will review the matter on the papers and will set a date to announce its oral ruling at a hearing conducted remotely. Parties who wish to waive a hearing likely will receive orders sooner than those who wish to argue the matter. Please refer to the Court's website for the form entitled "Family Law Stipulation to Waive Hearing and Submit on Papers," located under the Forms tab (Local Form E-1FL).

Trials and Evidentiary Hearings: Trials and evidentiary hearings calendared through August 31, 2020, have been vacated and set for trial setting conferences. The trial setting conferences are for those trials and hearings that have been displaced as of March 16, 2020. The trial setting conferences will be conducted remotely via CourtCall or Zoom. Please check the notice for your case for instructions on how to participate in the hearing. New trial and hearing dates will be set on a rolling basis and per applicable statutory priorities.

Paso Robles Courthouse: Please note the Clerk's Office at the Paso Robles Courthouse is closed for counter service.

Family Court Services: Family Court Services has resumed its operations. Previously scheduled mediations and other appointments have been rescheduled.

Self-Help Center / Family Law Facilitator's Office: The Self-Help Center / FLF Office is providing remote services, including telephone, email, video conferencing, and online workshops. Self-help in-person services are suspended until further notice. Self-represented litigants may contact the Self-Help Center at (805) 706-3617 or finishcase@slo.courts.ca.gov. Self-help materials can be found on the Court's website at <https://www.slo.courts.ca.gov/sh/>.