## Superior Court of California COUNTY OF SAN LUIS OBISPO



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

Courthouse Annex
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San Luis Obispo, California 93408

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## FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Monday, March 16, 2020

SAN LUIS OBISPO, CALIFORNIA: The Superior Court of San Luis Obispo County announces its plan to mitigate the spread of the COVID-19 virus.

On March 12, 2020, Governor Gavin Newsom issued <u>Executive Order N-25-20</u> in further response to the spread of the Novel Coronavirus 2019 (COVID-19), mandating compliance with state and local public health officials as pertains to measures to control the spread of COVID-19.

The San Luis Obispo County Health Officer declared a public health emergency on March 13, 2020, and the County Emergency Services Director also proclaimed a local emergency due to the COVID-19 pandemic.

Considering Governor Newsom's Executive Order, the Public Health Emergency declared by the San Luis Obispo Health Department, and in consultation with the criminal justice community, the Court is taking specific preventative action with the unanimous approval of its Judicial Officers.

The Court consulted with representatives of Public Health to ensure that the measures being considered by the Court for implementation would comport with Public Health's guidance and its efforts to control the further spread of COVID-19. The Court appreciates the careful balance that must be maintained between the timely administration of justice and the protection of public health and safety.

Effective Monday, March 16, 2020, San Luis Obispo County Superior Court will continue all non-time sensitive matters to a later date to minimize the public's potential exposure to COVID-19 during court appearances or jury service.

The Court will continue to monitor this evolving situation and will make further operational adjustments as appropriate. Please check the Court's website for ongoing COVID-19 updates and additional juror and remote appearance information.