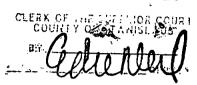
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## SUPERIOR COURT OF THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA FOR THE COUNTY OF STANISLAUS

GENERAL ORDER -REGARDING CHANGES IN )

GENERAL ORDER 2022-013

**COVID-19 PROTOCOLS** 

CR-22-999999

The Court makes the following findings:

In making changes to its COVID-19 protocols, the Stanislaus County Superior Court relies on guidance it receives from public health officials including the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) and the California Department of Public Health (CDPH).

The CDC has established COVID-19 "Community Levels" to provide such guidance.

Community Levels can be "low", "medium" or "high" – depending upon the reported COVID-19 metrics in a given community. The CDC's recommendations and guidance for preventing transmission of the COVID-19 virus change depending on a community's "level".

GENERAL ORDER - REGARDING CHANGES IN COVID-19 PROTOCOLS (6/24/2022)

As of March 16, 2022, Stanislaus County's Community Level was "low". Therefore, the Court issued General Order 2022-007 relaxing COVID-19 protocols. However, in making its order, the Court expressly reserved the right to reinstate any previously established COVID-19 protocols, or to adopt new protocols as necessary to protect public health and safety.

Thereafter on June 9, 2022, the CDC increased Stanislaus County's Community Level from "low" to "medium" due to an increase in both COVID-19 infection rates and virus-related hospitalizations. As a result, the Court revoked General Order 2022-007 and invoked General Order 2022-012, reimplementing certain COVID-19 protocols designed to protect public health and safety.

On June 22, 2022, the 7-day positivity rate for COVID-19 in Stanislaus County was 14.63%. As of June 24, 2022, the number of hospitalizations for COVID-19 in Stanislaus County had increased to 77, from 65 reported on June 9, 2022. Furthermore, on June 23, 2022, the CDC increased Stanislaus County's Community Level from "medium" to "high" reflecting the increased spread of the COVID-19 virus in Stanislaus County.

Therefore, effective June 27, 2022, and until further notice, the Court implements the following mitigation measures and protocols designed to limit the spread of the COVID-19 virus and to protect the safety of the public, attorneys, justice partners, law enforcement personnel, parties and the public.

Based on the above, the Court orders:

1. General Order 2022-012, is revoked;

- 2. Any person who enters a Stanislaus County Superior Court facility must wear a mask, regardless of vaccination status. This order applies to <u>all</u> persons, including court employees, attorneys, parties, witnesses, jurors, law enforcement personnel, and members of the public;
- 3. Public access to the Modesto Main Courthouse and Civil Towers (Fourth and Sixth floors only) shall be limited to the following:
  - a. Attorneys, parties, and witnesses scheduled to appear in court;
  - b. Jurors;
  - c. Designated support persons under Family Code section 6303;
  - d. Persons conducting business in the Clerk's Office;
- 4. With the permission of the judge presiding over any given matter, individuals not listed above may be allowed access to court proceedings. A fillable form, Request to Attend Court Hearing, is available on the Court's website <a href="https://www.stanct.org/">https://www.stanct.org/</a>
  Requests can be emailed to <a href="mailto:public.access@stanct.org">public.access@stanct.org</a>
- 5. To ensure members of the public may still observe proceedings, all non-confidential, Criminal proceedings will be livestreamed to the Court's YouTube channel. The livestream can be accessed at https://www.stanct.org/node/4199553.

6. To the extent permitted by law and authorized by the judicial officer presiding over the matter, court hearings should be conducted using remote technology, e.g., ZOOM

This order is effective as of June 27, 2022, and shall remain in effect until amended or revoked

RESIDING JUDGE

GENERAL ORDER - REGARDING CHANGES IN COVID-19 PROTOCOLS (6/24/2022)