

1 SUPERIOR COURT OF THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA

2 IN AND FOR THE COUNTY OF MENDOCINO

3 GENERAL IMPLEMENTATION ORDER OF FEBRUARY 11, 2021 RE
4 EMERGENCY RELIEF AUTHORIZED BY GOVERNMENT
5 CODE §68115 AND BY CHAIR OF JUDICIAL COUNCIL
6 SUSPENDING ALL JURY TRIALS DURING SPECIFIED DATES

7 Due to the unprecedented increase in positive cases of COVID-19 in this county and
8 elsewhere, the daily positivity rate within Mendocino County, the infection rate currently
9 affecting all inmates and staff at the Mendocino County jail and Governor Gavin Newsom's
10 Regional Stay-At-Home Order that became effective on December 5, 2020, the Superior Court
11 of California, County of Mendocino, on February 9, 2021 again sought emergency relief from
12 Chief Justice Tani G. Cantil-Sakauye from various statutory deadlines affecting jury trials. This
13 relief was sought to reduce the public safety risk arising from convening large venire panels and
14 conducting jury selection in physical circumstances that may increase the risk to potential jurors,
15 court staff, lawyers, spectators and other individuals involved in such proceedings to contracting
16 COVID-19. Due to the physical limitations of both courthouses, the risk to public safety exists
17 in both branches of the Mendocino County Superior Court.

18 Exercising the authority granted under Government Code section 68115 and the Request
19 for Judicial Emergency Order approved on February 10, 2021 by Chief Justice Tani G. Cantil-
20 Sakauye, Chair of the Judicial Council of California, Presiding Judge Ann Moorman ORDERS
21 AS FOLLOWS:


22 Any judge of the Mendocino County Superior Court may extend the time period provided
23 in section 1382 of the Penal Code for the holding of a criminal trial by not more than thirty (30)
24 days in cases in which the statutory deadline otherwise would expire on and between February
25 16, 2021 and March 19, 202, inclusive. (Gov. Code, § 68115(a)(10).) This Order is to be read
26 and interpreted in conjunction with the Orders of the Presiding Judge of December 4, 2020 and
27 January 6, 2021 granting identical powers for the time period commencing December 7, 2020 to
28 and including February 11, 2021 inclusive.

29 All other jury trials scheduled to commence on or between February 16, 2021 and March
30 19, 2021 are hereby vacated and shall be re-set by the assigned department or any judicial
31 officer.

32 This Order is based on a finding of good cause arising out the current State of Emergency
33 declared in March 2020 and the underlying public health Crisis, the above recitations and those
34 reasons provided in the application to the Chief Justice. This Order will facilitate the Court's
35 goal and that of our state and county of eliminating the need to gather large numbers of people in
36 enclosed spaces that jury selection and jury trials necessarily require.

37 THIS ORDER IS EFFECTIVE IMMEDIATELY.

38 Dated: February 11, 2021



Hon. Ann C. Moorman, Presiding Judge