

THE JUDICIAL COUNCIL OF THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA


Because of the COVID-19 epidemic, leading to health and safety concerns resulting in a reduced jury pool and substantial operational impediments, and the proclamation of a state of emergency by federal, state, and local officials, it has been determined that the conditions described in section 68115 of the Government Code are met with regard to the Superior Court of Merced County. On March 20, 2020, an Order issued at the request of Presiding Judge Donald J. Proietti authorizing the Superior Court of California, County of Merced to implement various forms of relief authorized by section 68115. This Order supersedes that March 20, 2020 Order:

- Declare that for the period of March 23, 2020 through April 17, 2020, inclusive, an emergency condition substantially interfered with the public's ability to file papers in a court facility or court facilities, and that such days are deemed holidays for the purpose of computing time for filing papers with the court under sections 12 and 12a of the Code of Civil Procedure (Gov. Code, § 68115(a)(4));
- Declare that March 23, 2020 through April 17, 2020, inclusive, be deemed holidays for purposes of computing time under Penal Code section 825 (time to bring arrested person before magistrate) and Welfare and Institutions Code sections 313 (detention of minor pending dependency proceedings), 315 (detention hearing for minor in custody pending dependency proceedings), 334 (time to hold hearing on dependency petition), 631 (detention of minor in wardship proceedings), 632 (detention hearing for minor in wardship proceedings), 637 (detention rehearing for minor in wardship proceedings), and 657 (hearing on petition to declare minor a ward) (Gov. Code, § 68115(a)(5));
- Extend for up to 30 days, the duration of any restraining order that would otherwise expire from March 23, 2020 through April 17, 2020, inclusive (Gov. Code, § 68115(a)(7));
- Extend during the period of March 23, 2020 through April 17, 2020, inclusive, of the time period provided in section 859b of the Penal Code for the holding of a preliminary examination from 10 court days to not more than 15 court days (Gov. Code, § 68115(a)(9));

- Extend the time period provided in section 825 of the Penal Code within which a defendant charged with a felony offense must be taken before a magistrate from 48 hours to not more than 7 days, applicable only to cases in which the statutory deadline otherwise would expire on from March 23, 2020 through April 17, 2020, inclusive (Gov. Code, § 68115(a)(8));
- Extend the time period provided in section 313 of the Welfare and Institutions Code within which a minor taken into custody pending dependency proceedings must be released from custody to not more than 7 days, applicable only to minors for whom the statutory deadline otherwise would expire from March 23, 2020 through April 17, 2020, inclusive (Gov. Code, § 68115(a)(11));
- Extend the time period provided in section 315 of the Welfare and Institutions Code within which a minor taken into custody pending dependency proceedings must be given a detention hearing to not more than 7 days, applicable only to minors for whom the statutory deadline otherwise would expire from March 23, 2020 through April 17, 2020, inclusive (Gov. Code, § 68115(a)(11));
- Extend the time periods provided in sections 632 and 637 of the Welfare and Institutions Code within which a minor taken into custody pending wardship proceedings and charged with a felony offense must be given a detention hearing or rehearing to not more than 7 days, applicable only to minors for whom the statutory deadline otherwise would expire from March 23, 2020 through April 17, 2020, inclusive (Gov. Code, § 68115(a)(11));
- Extend the time period provided in section 334 of the Welfare and Institutions Code within which a hearing on a juvenile dependency petition must be held by not more than 15 days, applicable only to minors for whom the statutory deadline otherwise would expire from March 23, 2020 through April 17, 2020, inclusive (Gov. Code, § 68115(a)(12));
- Extend the time period provided in section 657 of the Welfare and Institutions Code within which a hearing on a wardship petition for a minor charged with a felony offense must be held by not more than 15 days, applicable only to minors for whom the statutory deadline

otherwise would expire from March 23, 2020 through April 17, 2020, inclusive (Gov. Code, § 68115(a)(12)).

Date: March 20, 2020

Handwritten signature of Tani G. Cantil-Sakauye in black ink.

Hon. Tani G. Cantil-Sakauye
Chief Justice of California and
Chair of the Judicial Council