

## THE JUDICIAL COUNCIL OF THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA

Because of the COVID-19 pandemic, leading to health and safety concerns resulting in substantial operational impediments, and the proclamations of states of emergency by federal, state, and local officials, it was determined that the conditions described in Government Code section 68115(a) were met with regard to the Superior Court of Merced County (Court) as of March 18, 2020, and March 20, 2020. It was also determined that those conditions continued to exist as of April 13, 2020. Pursuant to the Court's requests, orders issued on those dates authorizing the Court to implement certain relief authorized by Government Code section 68115. Upon a second renewed request of Presiding Judge Donald J. Proietti, it is determined that the conditions described in Government Code section 68115(a) continue to exist (Gov. Code, § 68115(b)), and it is ordered that the Court is authorized to do the following:

- Hold sessions anywhere in the county, including in correctional and juvenile detention facilities, from May 13, 2020, through June 10, 2020, inclusive (Gov. Code, § 68115(a)(1));
- Declare that from May 13, 2020, through June 10, 2020, inclusive, be deemed holidays for purposes of computing time under Welfare and Institutions Code sections 313, 315, 334, 631, 632, 637, and 657, if the above-described emergency conditions prevent the Court from conducting proceedings or accepting filings as necessary to satisfy these deadlines on those dates (Gov. Code, § 68115(a)(5));
- Extend the time period provided in section 1382 of the Penal Code within which a trial must be held by not more than 120 days. (Gov. Code, § 68115(a)(10); Executive Order N-38-20 (03-27-20).) This applies only to cases in which the initial statutory deadline otherwise would expire from March 16, 2020, through June 15, 2020, inclusive;
- 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 seven (7) days. (Gov. Code, § 68115(a)(11).) This applies only to

minors for whom the statutory deadline otherwise would expire from May 13, 2020, through June 10, 2020, inclusive;

- 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 seven (7) days. (Gov. Code, § 68115(a)(11).) This applies only to minors for whom the statutory deadline otherwise would expire from May 13, 2020, through June 10, 2020, inclusive;
- 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 seven (7) days. (Gov. Code, § 68115(a)(11).) This applies only to minors for whom the statutory deadline otherwise would expire from May 13, 2020, through June 10, 2020, inclusive;
- 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 fifteen (15) days. (Gov. Code, § 68115(a)(12).) This applies only to minors for whom the statutory deadline otherwise would expire from May 13, 2020, through June 10, 2020, inclusive;
- 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 fifteen (15) days. (Gov. Code, § 68115(a)(12).) This applies only to minors for whom the statutory deadline otherwise would expire from May 13, 2020, through June 10, 2020, inclusive.

Date: May 19, 2020



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