

Superior Court of California County of Santa Clara

CONTACT

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Palo Alto Courthouse To Reopen May 2, 2022

When the Santa Clara County Public Health Officer issued orders beginning March 16, 2020, directing all individuals living in Santa Clara County to shelter at their place of residence to mitigate the spread of COVID-19, the Court was required to close the Palo Alto and Morgan Hill courthouses and reduce and consolidate court operations. Palo Alto and Morgan Hill cases and calendars were transferred to the Hall of Justice Courthouse in San Jose. In-person criminal services - clerk's offices - were also moved to the Hall of Justice, where they have remained through 2021. Beginning in 2022, the Court will reopen services and expand hearings in the north and south counties.

- The Court will restore in-person services and resume hearing Criminal matters at the Palo Alto Courthouse beginning May 2, 2022.
- The Morgan Hill Courthouse, which reopened for Criminal trials in 2021, reopens for criminal calendars, continues criminal trials, and resumes in-person services in the Clerk's Office beginning January 18, 2022.

"The Court is taking a thoughtful and measured approach as we continue to move forward with the restoration of services county-wide. We understand that this is a significant change but a necessary one. Reopening courthouses will help us do the Court's business, resolve backlogs, increase access, and minimize crowding for our courthouses and clerk's offices," said Presiding Judge Theodore C. Zayner. "Through the pandemic, the Court has updated our business processes, introduced, and enhanced the use of new technologies as we continued to provide access to justice for the people of Santa Clara County. Wherever possible, we anticipate maintaining these online and virtual service enhancements, which have proven to increase access to justice while minimizing exposure to COVID-19."

To safeguard the health and safety of the parties, attorneys, witnesses, jurors, Court employees, judicial officers, and all other members of the public who appear in person at Court, the Court installed Plexiglas partitions in the courtrooms and implemented deep cleaning and sanitation practices that will continue at the Palo Alto and Morgan Hill Courthouses as we reopen to the public.

*****If you are sick or experiencing any symptoms of COVID-19, DO NOT come to Court.*****

The Court will postpone and reschedule court dates, as necessary, to accommodate those who are ill due to COVID-19. If you need to contact the Court or inform us of an illness, please use the following contact methods:

[CONTACT THE COURT](#)

Or email:

Please locate the appropriate Division or Area of the Court related to your inquiry.

Division or Area of the Court	Contact by Email
Civil	sscivilinfo@scscourt.org
Criminal	sscriminfo@scscourt.org
Family	ssfamilyinfo@scscourt.org
Jury	ssjuryinfo@scscourt.org
Juvenile	ssjuvinfo@scscourt.org
Probate	ssprobinf@scscourt.org
Small Claims	sssclaimsinfo@scscourt.org
Traffic	sstrafficinfo@scscourt.org

