



SUPERIOR COURT OF CALIFORNIA
County of Sacramento

Public Notice – Juvenile Justice Division
Resumption of Contested Evidentiary Hearings and
Public Access
Effective Monday, July 6, 2020

Effective Monday, July 6, 2020, the Juvenile Court will proceed with contested evidentiary hearings at the Juvenile Courthouse, 9605 Kiefer Boulevard, Sacramento, CA 95827.

Contested evidentiary hearings will be prioritized as indicated below. Prioritize means that those matters will take precedence over others.

1. In custody Jurisdiction and Disposition Hearings
2. Transfer Hearings
3. Out of custody Jurisdiction and Disposition Hearings
4. All other contested evidentiary matters

Building Access for In-Person Trial Participants

In accordance with protocols established by the Presiding Judge of the Sacramento Superior Court and the Presiding Judge of the Juvenile Court, the following criteria are required for all trial participants entering the court facility:

1. Appropriate Physical distancing is required at all times.
2. Mandatory temperature screening will be conducted prior to entering the building.
3. Masks are required to be worn by all persons entering a court facility, and must be worn at all times.

The Court will permit limited public access into the building for matters set for contested evidentiary hearings as follows:

1. The minor;
2. The parent(s)/guardian(s) of the minor;
3. One seat shall be available for the public upon request for hearings under Welfare and Institutions Code section 676;
4. The victim and a parent/guardian of a minor victim;
5. A victim advocate; and
6. Witnesses testifying.

Once screened and cleared for entry, all participants will proceed directly to the trial courtroom, except for witnesses.

Witnesses should be seated on clearly marked and appropriately spaced chairs in the lobby area in front of the assigned trial courtroom and wait until called into the courtroom by the bailiff.

Courtroom Access for In-Person Trials

Locations for the seating of the minor, attorneys, probation and parent/guardian will be clearly marked within the courtroom.

Should a participant require the services of an interpreter, one will be present in the courtroom.

No one will be permitted to enter the well except court staff, unless specific permission is granted by the judge presiding over the proceeding.

During the trial, everyone in the courtroom including court staff is required to wear masks, with the exception of the judicial officer while on the bench, and any witness while on the witness stand. Clear Plexiglas has been installed around the bench and witness stand to allow both the judicial officer and any witnesses to safely speak and interact without the need to wear a mask.

At the conclusion of testimony, witnesses should proceed to the first floor and exit the building without delay.

At the conclusion of the trial, all participants should proceed to the first floor and exit the building without delay.

Non-Evidentiary Hearings

The Court continues to conduct all non-evidentiary matters via remote technology. Minors and their parents are encouraged to contact their attorney or probation officer in advance of the scheduled hearing to obtain the Zoom session ID and password.

Juvenile detention hearings will be heard by videoconference every afternoon. To provide public access to the hearings under WIC 676, the court is livestreaming these matters. Please go to <https://www.saccourt.ca.gov/criminal/hearinglivestreams.aspx> and click on the appropriate link for the afternoon calendar. Detentions will be held at 1:30 pm.

Minors who have previously been ordered to appear for a matter scheduled for 8:30 a.m., shall appear by telephone or via the Zoom application. If any minor is unable to participate by telephone or zoom, and is unable to communicate with their attorney or probation officer in advance of the hearing, the minor should be physically present at the courthouse at 9605 Kiefer Boulevard at 8:30 a.m. to receive further instructions.

Failure to follow these procedures may result in the court hearing your matter in your absence.

Please continue to check our website at <https://www.saccourt.ca.gov/general/coronavirus.aspx> for further instructions and updates.