

MONTEREY COUNTY



COUNTY ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICE

CHARLES J. MCKEE
COUNTY ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICER

168 W. ALISAL STREET, 3RD FLOOR
SALINAS, CA 93901-2680
(831) 755-5115
FAX (831) 757-5792
www.co.monterey.ca.us

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Presiding Judge Julie Culver
Monterey County Superior Court

Re: Evictions and COVID19/Coronavirus Pandemic

Dear Presiding Judge Culver:

As you are undoubtedly aware, the Coronavirus, also known as Covid19, is impacting all areas of the world and all areas of American society. We understand many courts are closing for two weeks or more, which shows that the judicial hierarchy is concerned for the health and safety of participants in the system you oversee. The Board of Supervisors and County Administration know well the challenges this pandemic poses for government organizations which are subject to a multitude of laws.

The less fortunate among us frequently bear a disproportionate burden of society's challenges and have demonstrably fewer resources available to address challenges, especially a pandemic. This pandemic is closing schools, government and business. Our schools are often used as daycare for the children of the working poor who will now be faced deciding whether to stay home to protect their child or show up at work to earn a meager living. In addition, health care costs and sudden catastrophic medical conditions often cause personal bankruptcies and loss of employment. A pandemic such as Covid19 is likely to also lead to business bankruptcies and the resultant loss of employment for the owner and employees.

We are concerned that these life changing effects of Covid19 will result in residential and commercial property evictions at a time of overall crisis in our nation. As a community, now is the time to help our neighbors, to show compassion and to come together to defeat this pandemic. Therefore, the Monterey County Board of Supervisors calls on the Superior Court of Monterey County to suspend all eviction proceedings, including default judgments, and filings for at least _____.

We appreciate everything our local Court does to serve our community and trust you will see the wisdom of showing compassion as we battle this crisis together.