
From:
Sent: Friday, February 5, 2021 1:28 PM
To:
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Subject: Bar Update

Members of the Napa County Bar Association:

Consistent with actions taken in December and January, the Court has requested and received from the Chief Justice emergency orders allowing us to continue to suspend jury trials through the end of the month of February. On Wednesday, Presiding Judge Mark Boessenecker exercised that authority and issued a new emergency order.

You can find those orders and others issued by the Chief Justice and Presiding Judge [here](#) and [here](#).

However, the Court plans to start conducting some trials starting the week of February 8. Our plan is to conduct one trial per week as an introductory measure as pandemic metrics continue to improve in Napa and the surrounding areas. We will conduct the trials in the same manner as we did from June through November, with social distancing, masks and multiple courtrooms for jury selection.

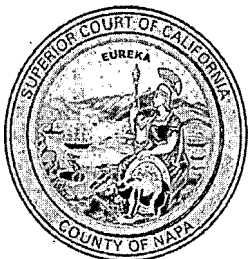
We've made the decision to restart jury trials for the following reasons:

- The jail population has increased and we have a growing number of pending in custody/no time waiver cases; and
- We are confident in our trial courtroom safety precautions.

In consulting with other trial courts around the state, we've learned that courts conducting trials currently are not experiencing courtroom related spread of the virus. This is in large part because they are taking the same kind of precautions that we have implemented in Napa.

Thank you for being willing partner throughout the pandemic and adjusting to the many operational changes put into place since last spring. If you have any questions, please don't hesitate to reach out.

Bob



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