

Superior Court of California County of Orange

341 THE CITY DRIVE, SOUTH ORANGE, CA 92863 PHONE: 657-622-6504

Rules for Advanced and In Court Domestic Violence Hearings Departments L11 and L63

- Due to the current COVID-19 Pandemic and consistent with recommendations/directions of the Center for Disease Control (CDC), the Governor of the State of California and the Orange County Health Department, all individuals entering this courthouse must wear a face mask (or comparable face cloth covering mouth and nose). Refusal to wear a mask will result in dismissal of the case if the moving party refuses to wear a mask and a default (unopposed) proceeding if the Respondent refuses to wear a mask.
- 2. Parties are asked to arrive 15 minutes prior to their designated hearing time and check in with an Orange County Sheriff Deputy upon arrival at the courthouse. Deputies will assist the public at the front entrance.
- 3. Hearings shall be staggered approximately 30 minutes apart.
- 4. Petitioners may be accompanied by one support person as currently allowed under existing law.
- 5. Childcare is not available in the courthouse. Parties may not bring children into the courthouse.
- 6. Proof of service must be emailed to the court at least 2 days prior to the hearing. Emailed documents for Dept. L-11 shall be sent to the email listed below.
- 7. A witness list must be provided to the court by email at least 2 days prior to the hearing. If the witness list is not provided (such that the Sheriff can identify witnesses at the door) the witness will not gain entry to the building or be allowed in the hearing.
- 8. Documentary evidence (photos, documents, text messages, or emails) intended to be used or introduced by either party shall be emailed to the court at least 2 days prior to the hearing (unless such documents were previously provided to the court at the time a restraining order was requested).
- 9. Each party shall provide or confirm a valid telephone number and address to the clerk by email/fax at least 2 days prior to the hearing.
- 10. To the extent possible, the parties shall sit at opposite ends of the counsel table and witnesses may testify from the front row of the gallery seating (This may be modified on a case by case basis to ensure all parties and staff can clearly see and hear evidence).

Department L11 email address L11@occourts.org

Department L63 email address L63@occourts.org

William G. Watson

Commissioner, Department L63

Carol L. Henson Judge, Department L11