Yvette Durant ASSISTANT PRESIDING JUDGE



Ann Mendez
COURT EXECUTIVE OFFICER

Jason LaChance COMMISSIONER

# Superior Court of California, County of Sierra

100 Courthouse Square, P.O. Box 476, Downieville, CA 95936 Telephone: 530-289-3698 Fax 530-289-0205 Email: superiorcourt@sierracourt.org

# \*\*\*\*PUBLIC NOTICE\*\*\*\*

The Superior Court of Sierra County is announcing updates to operational and service changes made due to the COVID-19 pandemic. The court is revising mitigation procedures implemented during the pandemic. Current guidance may be obtained as indicated below.

#### **Criminal Court:**

- As of July 7, 2021, and until further notice, all misdemeanor and felony appearances will be accomplished via Zoom. Parties should contact their attorneys for information regarding their cases. Self-represented litigants will need to appear via Zoom or telephone. Please visit the Court's website at <a href="www.sierra.courts.ca.gov">www.sierra.courts.ca.gov</a> for information about appearing via Zoom or telephone and to obtain the required password and meeting ID.
- In-person appearances must be requested from and approved by a Judicial Officer using form (SEI-0031 Request for In-person Appearance). The form is located on the Court's website at <a href="https://www.sierra.courts.ca.gov">www.sierra.courts.ca.gov</a> and can be found on the Forms & Filing page.
- Jury trials may be heard but will be limited to critically-necessary criminal and civil trials as determined by the Court.
- For further information regarding payment of fines and fees, please visit the Court's website at <a href="www.sierra.courts.ca.gov">www.sierra.courts.ca.gov</a> and click on the Online Payments button on the home page.
- For public access to view and listen to court proceedings, go to <a href="www.sierra.courts.ca.gov">www.sierra.courts.ca.gov</a> and click on the link "View Public Hearing" located on the COVID-19 Information page.

## **Civil, Family Law, and Probate Court:**

- As of July 7, 2021, and until further notice, all Civil, Family and Probate appearances will be accomplished via Zoom.
- Parties should contact their attorneys for information regarding their cases. Self-represented litigants will need to appear via Zoom or telephone. Please visit the Court's website at <a href="www.sierra.courts.ca.gov">www.sierra.courts.ca.gov</a> for information about appearing via Zoom or telephone to obtain the required password and meeting ID.
- In-person appearances must be requested from and approved by a Judicial Officer using form (SEI-0031 Request for In-person Appearance). The form is located on the Court's website at <a href="https://www.sierra.courts.ca.gov">www.sierra.courts.ca.gov</a> and can be found on the Forms & Filing page.
- For public access to view and listen to court proceedings go to <a href="www.sierra.courts.ca.gov">www.sierra.courts.ca.gov</a> and click on the link "View Public Hearing" located on the COVID-19 Information page.

### **Traffic Court:**

- As of July 7, 2021, and until further notice, all traffic hearings will be accomplished via Zoom.
- Please visit the Court's website at <a href="www.sierra.courts.ca.gov">www.sierra.courts.ca.gov</a> for information about appearing via Zoom or telephone and to obtain the **required password** and **meeting ID.**
- In-person appearances must be requested from and approved by a Judicial Officer using form (SEI-0031 Request for In-person Appearance). The form is located on the Court's website at www.sierra.courts.ca.gov and can be found on the Forms & Filing page.
- For further information regarding payments and pending traffic citations, please visit our website at <a href="www.sierra.courts.ca.gov">www.sierra.courts.ca.gov</a> and click on the Traffic Tickets button on the home page.

### **Court Clerk's Offices:**

Court staff is available by phone and email during normal business hours of 9:00 a.m. – noon and 1:00 p.m. – 4:00 p.m. The Court Clerk's Office Public Counter is open to the public during normal business hours of: 9:00 a.m. – noon and 1:00 p.m. – 4:00 p.m. Filings are also being accepted by mail, overnight delivery service or email at <a href="mailto:superiorcourt@sierracourt.org">superiorcourt@sierracourt.org</a>. Filings by mail or overnight delivery service will require a self-addressed stamped envelope if endorsed copies are desired. All filings will be filed on the date received, if received by 4:00 p.m. Any endorsed copies will be returned within two (2) business days. Any temporary emergency order issued by a judge will be emailed to the requesting party.

## **Self-Help:**

- Assistance is available for self-represented litigants. Please contact Self-Help Attorney and Family Law Facilitator, Ingrid Larson at (530) 289-3654 or by email at cingridlarson@gmail.com.
- Additional online resources are available at <u>www.sharpcourts.org</u> or <u>www.courts.ca.gov</u>.

Strict adherence to all public health mandates is required for anyone who is in the courthouse. Anyone who plans to enter the courthouse should visit the Court's website for further guidance regarding policies and procedures and verify all up-to-date directives which may be found at the state's official website at <a href="https://www.cdph.ca.gov">https://www.cdph.ca.gov</a>. If you have any further questions please email the court at <a href="mailto:superiorcourt@sierracourt.org">superiorcourt@sierracourt.org</a> or call the clerk's office at (530) 289-3698.