



The Superior Court

111 NORTH HILL STREET
LOS ANGELES, CALIFORNIA 90012
CHAMBERS OF
ERIC C. TAYLOR
PRESIDING JUDGE

TELEPHONE
(213) 633-0400

January 4, 2022

Los Angeles County Bar Association Members
c/o Stan Bissey
Executive Director & CEO
200 South Spring Street
Los Angeles, CA 90012

Dear LACBA Members,

Given the urgency of the current winter surge and its impact on trial court operations in Los Angeles County, I ask for your help in our efforts to reduce the risk of virus transmission in our courts. Over the past two years, Civil attorneys have shown great patience, understanding, and willingness to contribute to our overall efforts to maintain safe access to justice in the largest trial court in the nation.

Over the New Year's weekend, the Delta and Omicron variants resulted in almost 45,000 new recorded cases. Over the last two days, the Los Angeles Department of Public Health (LADPH) reported more than 16,000 and then 21,000 new cases.

Today, I announced a new General Order to extend Criminal jury trial deadlines to reduce courthouse foot traffic. I am reaching out to you, as bar leaders and officers of the Court, to ask that you strongly consider a trial delay as well. Please consult with your trial judge in each case to determine how and when to proceed. Also, please continue to take advantage of every opportunity to appear remotely via LACourtConnect. If you must come to court, you must adhere to all LADPH and Court mandates, including wearing a face mask over your nose and mouth in our courthouses. I also ask that you refrain from conferring with colleagues or clients in the hallways – and do not eat or drink in those spaces.

Although the County has not returned to social distancing, I have urged Civil judges – if trials must proceed during this month – to continue to space people around courtrooms as much as possible and to determine if larger courthouse spaces are available for jury selection.

Together, with your fellowship and commitment to safe access to justice, Civil operations have proceeded in recent months with pre-pandemic levels of efficiency and case resolutions. I know we can count on you to help us maintain safe access to justice during the current surge.

Thank you.

Very Truly Yours,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Eric C. Taylor".

ERIC C. TAYLOR
Presiding Judge