

**Superior Court of California
COUNTY OF ALAMEDA**



Tara M. Desautels, Presiding Judge
Charles Smiley, Assistant Presiding Judge
Chad Finke, Executive Officer

René C. Davidson Courthouse
1225 Fallon Street
Oakland, California 94612



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www.alameda.courts.ca.gov

**For more information about this news
release, please contact:**

Executive Office
pcomments@alameda.courts.ca.gov
510-891-6012

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Monday, April 13, 2020

OAKLAND, CALIFORNIA: Superior Court of Alameda County orders the release of 56 additional persons from the Santa Rita Jail.

On April 13, 2020, the Presiding Judge of the Superior Court of Alameda County (Court), Hon. Tara M. Desautels, issued three General Orders releasing an additional 56 persons from the Santa Rita Jail.

One [General Order](#), issued at the request of the District Attorney, Public Defender, and private criminal defense bar, released 15 additional persons, each of whom had 90 or fewer days left to serve on their felony sentences. Their sentences are deemed served.

The other two General Orders found good cause to release [20](#) and [21](#) persons, respectively. All persons released under those orders were released because, after judicial review and with notice to the Alameda County District Attorney's Office, their bail was reduced to \$0.00 pursuant to [Emergency Rule 4](#), adopted by the Judicial Council of California on April 6, 2020, and codified by the Court as [amended Local Rule 4.115](#) on April 8, 2020.

With these General Orders, the Court has ordered a total of 334 persons directly released from Santa Rita since the beginning of the COVID-19 crisis. These releases are in addition to the releases ordered by the Court through its daily pre-arraignment review process and its daily pretrial risk assessment program. As a result of these combined efforts, even with new arrests, the overall population of the jail decreased from 2597 persons on March 1, 2020, to 1925 persons on April 12, 2020. With the release of the additional 56 persons today, the total jail population will have been reduced by approximately 28%. The Court will continue working with its justice partners to process criminal cases during this Emergency Period, and anticipates issuing additional General Orders releasing more persons from Santa Rita later this week.