Superior Court of California COUNTY OF ALAMEDA



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

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Thursday, August 26, 2021

OAKLAND, CALIFORNIA: Superior Court of Alameda County implements policy requiring all Court personnel to be fully vaccinated by November 1, 2021.

The Superior Court of Alameda County (Court) announced today that, effective immediately, it has adopted a policy requiring all Court employees, contractors, interns, and volunteers to be fully vaccinated by no later than November 1, 2021. Limited exemptions will be available for those with medically documented contraindications, disability accommodations, or sincerely held religious beliefs. Although exempt personnel will not be required to be vaccinated, they will be required to test regularly for COVID-19.

The Court adopted its policy following the Food and Drug Administration's August 23, 2021, non-emergency approval of the Pfizer-BioNTech COVID-19 Vaccine, now known as Comirnaty, and President Biden's August 24, 2021, request that all public and private employers to mandate vaccinations for their employees. With COVID-19 cases and hospitalizations rising in Alameda County in July and August 2021, and with the Delta variant transmitting widely and rapidly through the population, the Court concluded that mandatory vaccinations were necessary to help protect the well-being of Court personnel, Court partners, jurors, and the many members of the public who use and access Court facilities and services.

As it has done throughout the pandemic, the Court will continue to monitor guidance from the <u>Centers for Disease Control</u>, <u>California Department of Public Health</u>, and <u>Alameda County Public Health Department</u> and will update its policies as appropriate. Please continue to check our <u>website</u> and follow <u>@AlamedaSuperior</u> on Twitter for the most current information.