

**Superior Court of California
COUNTY OF ALAMEDA**



Charles A. Smiley III, Presiding Judge

Thomas Nixon, Assistant Presiding Judge

Chad Finke, Executive Officer

René C. Davidson Courthouse

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Thursday, April 14, 2022

OAKLAND, CALIFORNIA: Superior Court of Alameda County announces reopening of courtrooms to the public and expansion of clerk's office hours.

The Superior Court of Alameda County (Court) announced today that, effective April 25, 2022, it will begin reopening courtrooms to the public. For the duration of the COVID pandemic, the public has been unable to observe court proceedings in person, although access has been available through [live audio streaming](#). While the live streaming option will remain, the public also will now be able to be physically present in the courtroom for proceedings that are open to the public generally.

The process of reopening courtrooms will occur on a rolling basis, driven by resource availability. The Court will maintain an up-to-date list of which courtrooms are open to the public on its dedicated [COVID-19 web page](#). Please note that courtrooms will only be open during times when court is in session. In some courthouses, lists of the daily proceedings are printed and posted, and litigants, attorneys, and members of the public may also check the appropriate case management system online to determine the date, time, and location of hearings:

- [Odyssey](#) (Criminal)
- [TCMS](#) (Traffic)
- [eCourt](#) (Civil/Small Claims)
- [DomainWeb](#) (Family/Probate)

The Court continues to require face coverings in all courthouses at all times under [General Directive 2022-03A](#). And while the Court does not currently have any social distancing mandate, it requests that courtroom spectators attempt to maintain a safe distance from each other, including leaving empty seats if possible. Judicial officers will have the authority to limit the number of persons in a courtroom if necessary for the health and safety of the public or Court personnel.

In addition, beginning April 25, Civil, Family, Probate, Records, and Appeals clerk's offices will once again open at 8:30 a.m. for in-person and telephone services, and will close at 2:00 p.m. Criminal clerk's offices will continue to open at 8:30 a.m. and close at 3:00 p.m., while Traffic clerk's offices will open at 8:00 a.m. and close at 3:00 p.m. Drop boxes will be available from when each office closes until 4:00 p.m. every day.

[Civil e-filing](#) will still be available 24 hours per day, 7 days a week, along with [Criminal and Juvenile e-filing](#). [Fax filing](#) also remains available for Family and Probate filings.

The Court's Self-Help Center will remain closed for in-person service at this time, although assistance is still available by [telephone and LiveChat](#). The Court is planning to resume in-person Self-Help services by appointment only within the coming weeks.

For additional information related to the Court's COVID response, please see our dedicated [COVID-19 page](#), and please follow [@AlamedaSuperior](#) on Twitter for immediate updates.