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, April 23, 2020

OAKLAND, CALIFORNIA: Superior Court of Alameda County launches remote public and media access to court proceedings.

The Superior Court of Alameda County (Court) is pleased to announce that, beginning April 24, 2020, it will allow the public and media to access certain court proceedings remotely via live audio streams broadcast directly from courtrooms to the Court's web site. The details of the Court's remote access plan are set forth in emergency Local Rule 1.7a, which the Court adopted on April 23, 2020.

Where legally authorized, the public and media will be able to access available live audio streams by visiting the <u>Courtroom Live Stream</u> landing page and clicking the link of the feed to which they wish to listen. Upon request and approval by the judicial officer presiding over a particular proceeding, the media may also be permitted to access proceedings by remote video or, in some limited instances, in person.

Recording, broadcasting, or re-broadcasting any of the live audio streams without prior permission is expressly prohibited under rule 1.7a. Requests to record, broadcast, or re-broadcast must comply with <u>rule 1.150</u> of the California Rules of Court, and should be submitted to the Court via email at <u>mediarequest@alameda.courts.ca.gov</u>.

The Court views the establishment of this public access option as a critical step in restoring services in the wake of the COVID-19 crisis and appreciates the patience of the public and the media while the service was tested and implemented. The Court intends to continue to make proceedings accessible via live audio streaming so long as technology and resource limitations permit. Any questions relating to the live audio streams should be emailed to <u>mediarequest@alameda.courts.ca.gov</u>.