



# JUDICIAL COUNCIL OF CALIFORNIA

OPERATIONS AND PROGRAMS DIVISION  
CENTER FOR FAMILIES, CHILDREN & THE COURTS

May 2020

## You and Your Court Interpreter

### *Staying Safe during COVID-19*

The court wants you, your court interpreter, and everyone at court to stay safe during the COVID-19 emergency.

#### Your interpreter **will**:

- Wear a **mask** (*sign language interpreters may not wear masks*)
- Stay at least **6 feet** away, as much as possible
- Look for **private areas** to interpret for better social distancing
- Use **headsets** or other tools to interpret at a safe distance
- Work with court staff to keep equipment **disinfected**
- Be careful about **touching papers** other people have touched

#### Your interpreter will **NOT**:

- Shake your hand
- Move close to you for more private interpreting
- Share pens or papers with you
- Touch your cell phone or other mobile device, even to look at or translate evidence

#### **How to stay safe at court!**

- Wear a **mask**, unless court staff asks you to remove it
- Stay at least **6 feet** (2 meters) away from others, if possible
- **Always wash your hands often** with soap and water for at least 20 seconds:
  - after you blow your nose, cough, sneeze, or use the bathroom; and
  - before you eat or prepare food to feed a child.

#### **Do NOT:**

- Shake hands, touch elevator buttons, handrails, or door handles. Use gloves or a tissue, then throw them away
- If you touch something, do not touch your face – especially your eyes, nose and mouth – until you wash your hands
- Do not touch your eyes, nose, and mouth with unwashed hands.

#### **Ask the court to *reschedule* your court date if:**

- you have **symptoms** or are **recovering** from **coronavirus**, or
- a health professional told you to **self-quarantine**

Find your court's email or phone number at: [www.courts.ca.gov/find-my-court.htm](http://www.courts.ca.gov/find-my-court.htm)

If you have a lawyer, ask the lawyer to reschedule the court date for you.

Judicial Council of California  
[Language Access Services Program](#)

For more health information: <https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/index.html>