

RELEASE DATE: May 31, 2020

## **FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

## PRESIDING JUDGE KEVIN C. BRAZILE ANNOUNCES CLOSURE OF ALL SUPERIOR COURT OF LOS ANGELES COUNTY COURTHOUSES

Presiding Judge Kevin C. Brazile this evening ordered all 38 courthouses closed on Monday, June 1, 2020, in the interest of public safety. Presiding Judge Brazile made the decision to close all courthouses in the nation's largest trial court after Los Angeles County Sheriff Alex Villanueva announced a countywide curfew that took effect at 6 p.m. on May 31, 2020.

"Out of an abundance of caution, I am taking the extraordinary step of closing our courthouses tomorrow to protect the safety of the public, judicial officers and employees," Presiding Judge Brazile said. "This is not a decision I make lightly. But public safety is always our paramount concern."

Additional updates will be provided tomorrow as information becomes available.

Since Presiding Judge Brazile released his March 17 General Order to scale back operations in alignment with State and County COVID-19 public health directives, the Court has implemented drastic changes to court operations. During this time, 473 of the Court's 600 courtrooms, approximately 80 percent, have been closed.

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## **COURTHOUSES CLOSED**

## 2-2-2-2

The June 1, 2020, countywide courthouse closure comes as the Court plans to reopen its Clerk's Office operations on June 15 with a revised service model that prioritizes telephonic and online services, and appointments to meet in-person with court personnel, in order to achieve social distancing protocols. Face masks and/or facial coverings also will be mandatory and required for entry into any courthouse or courtroom by the general public or authorized persons.

Check for updates on the Court's website (<u>www.lacourt.org</u>) and Twitter page (<u>@LASuperiorCourt</u>).

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