



SUPERIOR COURT OF CALIFORNIA COUNTY OF MERCED

UPDATED NOTICE REGARDING PUBLIC ACCESS

Merced Superior Court is committed to continuing to serve the public and ensure continued court operations while also taking appropriate proactive and responsive measures to protect the safety, health, and welfare of court customers, jurors, and staff. To this end, we request that individuals refrain from visiting the Court whenever possible, and take advantage of the many remote services available, as detailed below.

If you must be physically present at court facilities, we will require that you take reasonable precautions to protect against the spread of COVID-19 by wearing a face shield or mask, washing/sanitizing hands often, and socially distancing.

Self Help Centers – Services remain available Monday through Friday, from 8 am to 12 pm by telephone at (209) 725-4168, or by email to selfhelp@mercedcourt.org or smallclaims.advisor@mercedcourt.org.

Clerk's Offices – The Clerk's Offices remain open for all filings Monday through Thursday from 8:00 am to 3:00 pm and Friday from 8:00 am to 12:00 pm. Exception: Merced Traffic will be open 7:30 am to 3:00 pm Monday through Thursday and 7:30 am to 12:00 pm on Fridays. The Los Banos Clerk's Office will accept all filings at the exterior walk up windows as the lobby windows remain closed.

Drop-Boxes – Available at all court locations. Documents deposited before 4:00 pm on business days will be processed the same day.

E-Filing – For Civil, Probate, and Family Law, visit <http://www.odysseyleft.com>

Court Proceedings – The Court has established video conferencing in all courtrooms and will continue to livestream public judicial proceedings on the Court's website at www.mercedcourt.org.

Parties – In-person appearance may be permitted; however, remote appearances are strongly encouraged and may be required in some courtrooms. Currently, Courtrooms 8, 10, 11, and 13 are remote or telephonic access only. Effective June 7, 2021, Courtroom 12 will be open for preliminary hearings only, subject to judicial officer discretion, with all other hearings remote or telephonic appearances.

Observers – Public access to all open court proceedings remains available through livestream, which can be accessed on the Court's website at www.mercedcourt.org. Limited seating is available to view criminal trials and preliminary hearings in person.

Media – Normal procedures apply.

Limited accommodations are available for viewing criminal trials and preliminary hearings. For information, questions or concerns, please contact Court Administration at (209) 725-4100.