



# Superior Court of California County of Napa

## Judges

Mark Boessenecker  
Cynthia P. Smith  
Ella Ortiz  
Victoria Wood  
Monique Langhorne  
Scott R. L. Young  
Joseph J. Solga

## Commissioner

Myriys  
Stockdale Coleman

## Court Executive Officer

Robert E. Fleshman

## Telephone

(707) 299-1100

## Historic Courthouse

825 Brown Street  
Napa, CA 94559-3031  
FAX: (707) 299-1250

## Criminal Courthouse

1111 Third Street  
Napa, CA 94559-3001  
FAX: (707) 253-4673

## Juvenile Courthouse

2350 Old Sonoma Road  
Napa, CA 94559-3703  
(site address only –  
no mail delivery)

May 8, 2020

To Our Napa County Bar Members:

Greetings all. Again, we hope this message finds you healthy and safe.

In our ongoing efforts to resume services while continuing to operate on a mitigated basis under COVID-19 requirements, the Napa Superior Court is happy to announce that it will begin offering voluntary settlement conferences via Zoom for civil, probate and family law matters.

Beginning Monday, May 11, you may submit a request to set a settlement conference by email at [settlements@napa.courts.ca.gov](mailto:settlements@napa.courts.ca.gov). Fillable Request forms will be available on our website ([www.napa.courts.ca.gov](http://www.napa.courts.ca.gov)) under the applicable "Important COVID-19 Related Links," and will allow for parties to provide preferred dates/times in order of preference. Once a Request form is submitted by email, your matter will be scheduled, and you will be emailed a confirmation with additional information including a Zoom link.

The court's Zoom account capabilities allow for waiting rooms and break-out sessions, which will hopefully allow for effective settlement discussions and ultimate resolutions. (There will be an option for phone-in only for anyone lacking Zoom access, but video appearances are strongly encouraged). We will also have fillable settlement templates that can be electronically signed by the parties, attorneys, and judicial officers for real-time settlement orders to be effectuated.

For civil/probate matters, conferences will be offered Monday through Thursday, both a.m. and p.m. sessions. We ask that your requested dates fall in a date range between 3-10 days from your request.

For family law, conferences will be offered Monday through Friday at 8:30 a.m., 10:00 a.m., 1:30 p.m., and 3:00 p.m. We ask that your requested dates fall in a date range between 2-5 days from your request.

The court is also offering settlement conferences in criminal matters, which may be requested by sending an email with the case name and number to [settlements@napa.courts.ca.gov](mailto:settlements@napa.courts.ca.gov).

Please note that these settlement conferences will be offered only as long as time permits. Once we are able to resume hearings, hopefully in June, they will have to be discontinued, possibly abruptly, for us to deal with the press of other court business. In the interim, we are hopeful that at least some of your cases that have been stuck in "Coronavirus limbo" will be able to utilize and benefit from the remote settlement conference opportunities. We also do ask for your patience as we all work out the kinks and challenges of implementing this new technology.

Lastly, for those of you who have been able to resolve matters during the emergency period, please note that the court is now accepting for filing stipulations with proposed orders/judgments. Even if the resolution is simply a withdrawal of a motion, the court would appreciate knowing what matters can be vacated from calendar for purposes of managing future hearing and trial calendars.

Thank you and take good care.

Kind regards,

Mark Boessenecker  
Presiding Judge

Cynthia P. Smith  
Assistant Presiding Judge