## **PRESS RELEASE**



## SUPERIOR COURT OF CALIFORNIA COUNTY OF IMPERIAL

El Centro, California – The current decreased rate of COVID infections and increased availability of vaccines in Imperial County allows the Court to restart its phased approach to allow greater public access to the courts. Therefore, effective Monday, March 15, 2021, the following will be open to the public: Civil and Probate calendars and Family Law long cause matters; Small Claims Advisor and Access Center - by appointment only; Civil Clerk's office, by appointment only, with the exception of emergency services such as restraining orders; Law Library, Jury Commissioner's office, and Criminal Clerk's office will fully open without restrictions.

Remote appearances for the foregoing matters will return to those authorized by the Rules of Court and local rules that were in place before the reduction of services caused by the COVID emergency, unless specifically authorized otherwise by a judge. If anyone has questions about a remote appearance in the matters affected by implementation of Phase 1, they should contact the Clerk's office at 760-482-2240.

The Court will continue with its safety protocols outlined on the Court's website at <u>https://imperial.courts.ca.gov</u>, where a revised Master Plan for Restoration of Services is available as well.