

1 SUPERIOR COURT OF THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA
2 IN AND FOR THE COUNTY OF MADERA
3 **GENERAL ORDER OF THE PRESIDING JUDGE**

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5 **COURT REPORTER AVAILABILITY**

6 Due to the statewide shortage of court reporters, the Superior Court of Madera County
7 (Court) can no longer assure the provision of providing official court reporters for all proceedings
8 on a daily basis. While official court reporters will remain ‘normally available,’ they can no
9 longer be guaranteed for all non-mandated proceedings.

10 As a result for the statewide shortage, I HEREBY FIND AND ORDER THAT:

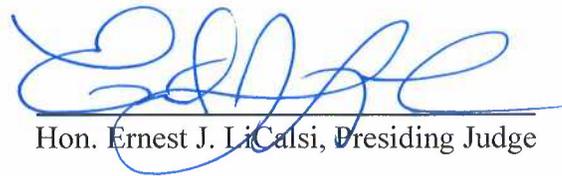
- 11 1. Official court reporters will continue to be provided for the following, statutorily
12 required matters:
- 13 a. Felony Criminal
 - 14 b. Juvenile
 - 15 c. Lanterman-Petris-Short (LPS) Act
 - 16 d. Family court matters where an official court reporter is mandated, such as requests
17 to withdraw consent to an adoption, child testimony in chambers, and petitions to
18 free a minor from parental care and control; and
 - 19 e. Cases in which an official court reporter is required by the California Supreme
20 Court opinion in the case of *Jameson v. Desta* (2018) 5 Cal.4th 594.
- 21 2. Considering that official court reporters are not statutorily required in civil, family law,
22 misdemeanor criminal and infraction matters, parties to a civil, family law or probate
23 matter who want to memorialize a hearing or trial may arrange, at their own expense,
24 for the presence of a court reporter. (See Gov. Code, §68086, subd. (d)(2); Cal. Rules
25 of Ct., rule 2.956 (b)(3), (c)).
- 26 3. The Court will continue to provide official court reporters for misdemeanor criminal
27 matters, as well as contempt in civil and family law matters; however, when an official
28 court reporter is not available, limited civil, misdemeanor traffic and infraction matters
may be electronically recorded to make the official record pursuant to Government
Code section 69957 and California Rules of Court, rules 2.952 and 2.956(c).
4. If the services of an official court reporter will not be available during a hearing on law
and motion or other non-trial matters in civil cases, it will be noted on the Court’s
official calendar (See Cal. Rules of Ct., rule 2.956 (b)(4)).

THIS ORDER IS EFFECTIVE IMMEDIATELY **and** expires on December 31, 2023.

Thereafter, and effective January 1, 2024, the Court’s Local Rules shall govern official court
reporter availability.

1 DATED: October 23, 2023

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Hon. Ernest J. Licalsi, Presiding Judge