



Dear LACCRA Member:

As I write this letter to you all, as employees of Los Angeles Superior Court, we find ourselves in an unprecedented moment in time - the outbreak of a nationally-recognized pandemic known as novel coronavirus (COVID-19).

This situation is so fast-moving that I have already had to rewrite some of my comments herein because our Presiding Judge, Kevin C. Brazile, has made additional announcements regarding the scaling down of court operations beginning Monday, March 16, 2020. It is expected that additional announcements will be made in the coming days.

First, and foremost, in order to stay timely informed of the most recent announcements regarding changes to court operations, I strongly suggest you bookmark the court's homepage at [www.lacourt.org](http://www.lacourt.org) where, at the top-center of that page, you will find changes and updates regarding the Court's operations regarding COVID-19. You can also get updates via social media by following the Court's Twitter account @LASuperiorCourt.

The Court has sent multiple emails on this subject to its employees via your court email addresses. If you have not received those emails, please check your "Clutter" or "Other" mailboxes on your Office 365 Outlook application.

If you need to take time off and you have a specific question about how to use your time under these unusual circumstances, you are encouraged to contact your manager for clarification of the emails that have been sent that speak on this topic.

**If you are feeling heightened states of anxiety and uncertainty, know that The Los Angeles County Employee Assistance Program (EAP) offers free, professional counseling services to employees and their dependents. For information about or to speak to a licensed professional of this program, please call (213) 738-4200, or visit <https://hr.lacounty.gov/subsites/EAP/default.htm>.**

As for our court reporter members specifically, your LACCRA board and Chief Steward worked in Joint Council with our representatives at SEIU 721, who then sent a demand letter on our behalf to meet and confer with the Court to specifically ". . . discuss what plan(s) Courtroom Support are utilizing to protect the Health and Safety of Court Reporters." That letter will be uploaded to our private Facebook forum for you to read for yourself. That Meet and Confer is scheduled for Monday, early afternoon, after which we hope to be able to share some updates and answers with our members.

While we realize that some are annoyed with the feeling of being inundated with all of the discussion of this situation and maybe even feel like it's an overreaction, there are possibly just as many of us that are feeling inundated with worry for ourselves and our loved ones.

We encourage those of you who do not find value in these updates and additional information to take a moment and find some empathy for your fellow court reporters that may be experiencing extreme worry and even anxiety during this trying time.

If we can all be mindful of our thoughts, words, and actions, we believe we can get through this.

Thank you for your patience as we do our best to represent you to the best of our abilities through these challenging days.

In Solidarity,  
Your LACCRA Board of Directors