

FILED
San Francisco County Superior Court

DEC 10 2020

CLERK OF THE COURT

BY: 
Deputy Clerk

SUPERIOR COURT OF CALIFORNIA
COUNTY OF SAN FRANCISCO

IN RE: COMPLEX ASBESTOS
LITIGATION

CASE NO. CGC-84-828684

DECEMBER 10, 2020 ASBESTOS CASE
MANAGEMENT DEPARTMENT ORDER

On December 4, 2020, the City and County of San Francisco’s Health Officer issued Order of the Health Officer No. C19-07p (“Order”), effective December 6, 2020 to January 4, 2021. The Order incorporates the restrictions of the Regional Stay at Home Order issued by the California Department of Public Health on December 3, 2020 while issuing new restrictions on businesses and activities. The Order was issued due to a rapid and significant surge in COVID-19 cases and hospitalizations. The Order specifically found that COVID-19 continues to pose a severe risk to residents of the County and that increased restrictions are necessary to protect against a surge in cases, serious illnesses, and death.

The orders of the City and County of San Francisco and California Department of Public Health require all residents to reduce the risk of COVID-19 transmission by staying in their residences to the extent possible and continuing to follow stringent social distancing measures. The Court cannot comply with these restrictions and continue to operate as in the past when conducting jury trials.

1 Court proceedings require gatherings of court staff, litigants, attorneys, witnesses, and juries, well in
2 excess of the numbers allowed under the current health orders. Additionally, the restrictions on
3 schools and businesses means many court employees, litigants, witnesses, and potential jurors cannot
4 leave their homes to attend court proceedings because they must be at home to supervise their
5 children. The Court's ability to assemble juries under the current restrictions is severely hindered.

6 Therefore, the Court finds good cause to extend all trial dates set in the Asbestos Case
7 Management Department for thirty (30) days. For preference cases, trial dates and last dates will be
8 tolled thirty (30) days from the hearing date of the preference motion.
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10 The Law and Motion and Discovery calendars will continue to be heard remotely via CourtCall
11 at 9:30 a.m. on Thursdays. Ex partes will continue to be heard remotely on Thursdays at 11:00a.m. via
12 CourtCall.

13 Informal Discovery Conferences and Case Management Conferences will continue to be heard
14 remotely, as scheduled through the clerk of Department 503.
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16 IT IS SO ORDERED.
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19 Dated: Dec. 10, 2020

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20 Hon. Cynthia Ming-Mei Lee
21 JUDGE OF THE SUPERIOR COURT
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