

# Other COVID-19 Information and Relief that may be helpful to You & Your Family

(Current as of April 13, 2020)

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### **San Bernardino County Superior Court:**

The court is **closed** for all non-emergency measures through April 30. The court posted a new general **order** on April 8. The chief justice issued a second emergency **order** for the court on April 1. The court is requiring all courthouse visitors to wear face coverings.

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### **Department of Motor Vehicles (DMV)**

- DMV has suspended all in office and telephone services through April 17. Use of online services and kiosks are requested.
- All Driver's Licenses including Commercial Licenses have been given a grace period through May 29. DOT Medical renewals may be postponed until the beginning of May if already expired, but see HR/Risk staff sometime in the first 2 weeks of May.

Website: <https://www.dmv.ca.gov/portal/dmv/%20detail/forms/reg/reg353>

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### **Governor Newsom Takes Executive Action to Establish a Statewide Moratorium on Evictions**

- *The order is effective immediately and will apply through May 31, 2020*
- *Builds on the Governor's previous executive action authorizing local governments to [halt evictions](#)*

The order prohibits landlords from evicting tenants for nonpayment of rent and prohibits enforcement of evictions by law enforcement or courts. It also requires tenants to declare in writing, no more than seven days after the rent comes due, that the tenant cannot pay all or part of their rent due to COVID-19.

The tenant would be required to retain documentation but not required to submit it to the landlord in advance. And the tenant would remain obligated to repay full rent in a timely manner and could still face eviction after the enforcement moratorium is lifted. The order takes effect immediately and provides immediate relief to tenants for whom rent is due on April 1<sup>st</sup>.

Today's action builds on Governor Newsom's previous [executive order](#) authorizing local governments to halt evictions for renters impacted by the pandemic.

A copy of the Governor's executive order can be found [here](#) and the text of the order can also be found [here](#).

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### **Governor Gavin Newsom Announces Major Financial Relief Package: 90-Day Mortgage Payment Relief During COVID-19 Crisis**

- *Governor Newsom announces financial institutions will provide relief for vast majority of Californians*
- *Californians economically impacted by COVID-19 may receive 90-day grace periods to make mortgage payments*
- *Financial institutions agree not to negatively impact credit reports as a result of accepting payment relief*

SACRAMENTO – Governor Gavin Newsom today announced that financial institutions will provide major financial relief for millions of Californians suffering financially as a result of the COVID-19 outbreak.

“Millions of California families will be able to take a sigh of relief,” said Governor Newsom. “These new financial protections will provide relief to California families and serve as a model for the rest of the nation. I thank each of the financial institutions that will provide this relief to millions of Californians who have been hurt financially from COVID-19.”

Governor Newsom secured support from Citigroup, JPMorgan Chase, U.S. Bank, and Wells Fargo and nearly 200 state-chartered banks, credit unions, and servicers to protect homeowners and consumers.

Under the Governor's proposal, Californians who are struggling with the COVID-19 crisis may be eligible for the following relief upon contacting their financial institution:

#### **90-Day Grace Period for Mortgage Payments**

Financial institutions will offer, consistent with applicable guidelines, mortgage payment forbearances of up to 90 days to borrowers economically impacted by COVID-19. In addition, those institutions will:

Provide borrowers a streamlined process to request a forbearance for COVID-19-related reasons, supported with available documentation;

Confirm approval of and terms of forbearance program; and

Provide borrowers the opportunity to request additional relief, as practicable, upon continued showing of hardship due to COVID-19.

### **No Negative Credit Impacts Resulting from Relief**

Financial institutions will not report derogatory tradelines (*e.g.*, late payments) to credit reporting agencies, consistent with applicable guidelines, for borrowers taking advantage of COVID-19-related relief.

### **Moratorium on Initiating Foreclosure Sales or Evictions**

For at least 60 days, financial institutions will not initiate foreclosure sales or evictions, consistent with applicable guidelines.

### **Relief from Fees and Charges**

For at least 90 days, financial institutions will waive or refund at least the following for customers who have requested assistance:

Mortgage-related late fees; and

Other fees, including early CD withdrawals (subject to applicable federal regulations).

Click [here for details on how to apply for relief](#). Loans held by a financial institution may be serviced by another company.

Please note that financial institutions and their servicers are experiencing high volumes of inquiries.

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### **Governor Newsom Praises California Counties for Pledge to Use Local Authority to Cancel Penalties or Charges for Property Tax Non-Payment Related to COVID-19**

SACRAMENTO — Governor Gavin Newsom today released the below statement following the announcement of a commitment from California counties to cancel penalties and other charges for homeowners, small businesses and other property owners with demonstrated economic hardship, on a case-by-case basis, due to COVID-19. Property owners that can afford to pay these taxes should continue to pay on time.

“This is good news for Californians. I would like to thank the California State Association of Counties and the California Association of County Treasurers and Tax Collectors for committing to providing economic relief for residents and small businesses facing hardships due to COVID-19,” said Governor Newsom.

More information on the counties commitment can be found [here](#).

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### **Governor Newsom Issues Executive Order to Protect Consumers from Price Gouging**

*Order comes in response to COVID-19 pandemic to limit price increases from sellers on critical items, such as food and medical supplies*

SACRAMENTO – Governor Gavin Newsom today signed an executive order expanding consumer protection against price gouging as California continues to respond to the COVID-19 pandemic.

The order generally prohibits sellers of any kind from increasing prices on food, consumer goods, medical or emergency supplies, and certain other items by more than 10 percent. The order also gives additional tools to the California Department of Justice and Attorney General’s Office, among others, to take action against price gougers.

“This crisis has impacted every Californian and our normal way of life, and we are ensuring that all consumers are able to purchase what they need, at a fair price,” said Governor Newsom.

A copy of the Governor’s executive order can be found [here](#), and the text of the order can be found [here](#).

Learn more about the state’s ongoing COVID-19 response efforts [here](#). Visit [covid19.ca.gov](https://covid19.ca.gov) for critical steps Californians can take to stay healthy, and resources available to those impacted by the outbreak.

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### **Governor Newsom Issues Executive Order Protecting Homes, Small Businesses from Water Shutoffs**

- *Order protects consumers who may be unable to pay for water service during COVID-19 crisis*

SACRAMENTO – Governor Gavin Newsom today signed an executive order that will restrict water shutoffs to homes and small businesses while the state responds to the COVID-19 pandemic.

The order protects consumers who may not be able to pay for their water service from shutoffs. Already, over 100 public and private water systems across California have voluntarily suspended water shutoffs for non-payment as a result of COVID-19. Under the order, the State Water Resources Control Board will issue best practices and guidelines on support for the state's water systems during this time.

"This executive order will help people who have been financially impacted by the COVID-19 pandemic by ensuring they have water service," said Governor Newsom. "Water is critical to our very lives, and in this time, it is critically important that it is available for everyone."

Additionally, the executive order will restore water for occupied residences that may have had their water shut off as of March 4, 2020, which is when the Governor proclaimed a state of emergency due to COVID-19.

A copy of the Governor's executive order can be found [here](#), and the text of the order can be found [here](#).

Learn more about the state's ongoing COVID-19 response efforts [here](#). Visit [covid19.ca.gov](https://covid19.ca.gov) for critical steps Californians can take to stay healthy, and resources available to those impacted by the outbreak.

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## **Governor Newsom Announces New Help for Small Businesses & Workers Displaced by COVID-19**

*BEGINNING April 3: Federal government offering first-come, first-serve loans of up to \$10 million for small employers  
Governor Newsom announces \$50 million in loan guarantees for small businesses that may not be eligible for federal relief*

*Governor joins Bitwise Industries in announcing [OnwardCa.org](https://OnwardCa.org), a platform connecting COVID-19 displaced workers with over 70,000 job opportunities in critical industries*

*State is also allowing small businesses to defer payment of sales and use taxes of up to \$50,000, for up to 12 months*

SACRAMENTO – Governor Gavin Newsom unveiled a series of new resources to aid small businesses and help California workers who have lost work due to COVID-19.

Beginning tomorrow, California small businesses impacted by the COVID-19 crisis can apply for a loan from the federal government for up to \$10 million. Importantly, the program is first-come, first-serve and the Governor encourages all eligible California small businesses to contact their lender to learn more.

Today, the Governor also announced that the state is allocating \$50 million to the California Infrastructure and Economic Development Bank for loan guarantees to small businesses to help eliminate barriers to capital for individuals who do not qualify for federal funds, including low wealth and undocumented immigrant communities. The state is also allowing small businesses to defer payment of sales and use taxes of up to \$50,000, for up to 12 months.

Additionally, the Governor joined Bitwise Industries and the Kapor Center to launch [OnwardCa.org](https://OnwardCa.org), a new platform connecting displaced California workers with more than 70,000 job opportunities in critical industries.

Earlier this week, Governor Newsom signed an [executive order to help small businesses](#), granting a 90-day extension for small businesses to pay sales taxes.

Governor Newsom also today announced \$17.8 million in new state initiatives to support California workers impacted by COVID-19. The allocation will come from Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act funds with \$7.8 million going to the Los Angeles region and \$10 million made available statewide.

"The COVID-19 pandemic is having cascading effects for millions of California families and small businesses," said Governor Gavin Newsom. "Through no fault of their own, more than a million Californians have lost a job and countless more are seeing their businesses fail. California will emerge from this crisis stronger than before, and until then, the state will work overtime with the federal government and private sector to get families the help they need.

For more information, go to [covid-19.ca.gov](https://covid-19.ca.gov).

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## **Governor Newsom Launches Campaign to Protect Health and Well-Being of Older Californians During COVID-19 Pandemic**

- *To combat social isolation, 'Stay Home. Save Lives. Check In.' campaign urges all Californians to check in on vulnerable neighbors with a call, text or physically-distanced door knock*

*In coordination with non-profit local 2-1-1 systems, California also launches hotline to help Californians answer questions*

SACRAMENTO – Governor Gavin Newsom today announced the “*Stay Home. Save Lives. Check In.*” campaign urging Californians to help combat social isolation and food insecurity among Californians who are over the age of 65 – a community that is uniquely vulnerable to COVID-19.

During California’s stay at home order, older Californians may need friends and neighbors to help them obtain basic necessities like groceries and prescriptions.

“The most important way for older Californians to stay safe is to stay at home,” said Governor Newsom. “No older Californian should be forced to go outside to get groceries or their medication. It’s on all of us across the state to check in on the older adults in our lives – our friends, family and neighbors – to help them during this outbreak. Each and every one of us must reach out in a safe way to make sure our older neighbors have someone to talk to and have enough food to eat during these difficult times.”

The campaign urges all Californians to check in on their older neighbors with a call, text or physically-distanced door knock to make sure they’re ok. In addition, the state is urging local non-profits and faith-based organizations to call to check in on all of the older Californians in their networks.

The Governor also announced the creation of a statewide hotline — 833-544-2374 — in coordination with the non-profit local 2-1-1 systems, so that Californians have a one-stop shop to answer their questions and get assistance during this crisis. For example, the 2-1-1 system is able to help older Californians access grocery and medication delivery while staying at home.

The state, in partnership with AARP, will also send a mailer to older residents, 65 and older, with useful resources and information to help adapt to the stay at home order.

“Social isolation can be difficult for older Californians even in the best of times,” said Kim McCoy Wade, director of the California Department of Aging. “We have to help aging Californians feel connected – and we must ensure we all have access to any needed services right now. This work will save lives.”

The campaign builds on existing efforts by California Volunteers and Community Emergency Response Teams (CERT) to help older Californians and those who need food assistance.

California Volunteers has launched their [Neighbor-to-Neighbor campaign](#), which calls on neighbors to be the first line of support for California’s most vulnerable residents who have been advised to stay at home during the COVID-19 pandemic. The Neighbor-to-Neighbor campaign is focused on older adults and promotes ways to safely check on your neighbors, family and friends.

To make the most vulnerable Californians more resilient to disasters, [Listos California](#) has pivoted to helping these communities stay safe during the pandemic. Leading the charge statewide are Community Emergency Response Teams (CERT) comprised of volunteers with at least 20 hours of FEMA preparedness training. These teams are conducting welfare checks on seniors, as well as distributing essential food and supplies in Sacramento, San Diego, San Bernardino, San Francisco, Los Angeles and Napa counties to help them through the pandemic. Listos California has also partnered with trusted community-based organizations across the state and programs like Meals on Wheels and other local senior-serving non-profits to deliver services and preparedness resources.

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## **Governor Newsom Signs Executive Order Providing Relief to California Small Businesses**

- *Order provides 90-day extension in state and local taxes, including sales tax*
- *Order extends licensing deadlines and requirements for a number of industries*

SACRAMENTO – Today, Governor Gavin Newsom signed an executive order that will provide tax, regulatory and licensing extensions for businesses.

The executive order allows the California Department of Tax and Fee Administration (CDTFA) to offer a 90-day extension for tax returns and tax payments for all businesses filing a return for less than \$1 million in taxes. That means small businesses will have until the end of July to file their first-quarter returns.

Additionally, the order extends the statute of limitations to file a claim for refund by 60 days to accommodate tax and fee payers.

The executive order also includes extensions that impact state government workers, as well as consumers. For instance, the Department of Motor Vehicles will limit in-person transactions for the next 60 days, allowing instead for mail-in

renewals. Additionally, the Department of Consumer Affairs will waive continuing education requirements for several professions, also for the next 60 days.

Further, the order will extend the Office of Administrative Law's deadlines to review regular department proposed regulations. The order also extends by 60 days the time period to complete investigation of public safety officers based on allegations of misconduct. Finally, deadlines for trainings, investigations, and adverse actions for state workers will also be extended.

A copy of the Governor's executive order can be found [here](#), and the text of the order can be found [here](#).

For the latest on the state's COVID-19 response, visit [covid19.ca.gov](https://covid19.ca.gov).

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### **Governor Newsom Takes Executive Action to Establish a Statewide Moratorium on Evictions**

*The order is effective immediately and will apply through May 31, 2020*

*Builds on the Governor's previous executive action authorizing local governments to [halt evictions](#)*

SACRAMENTO – Governor Gavin Newsom today issued an executive order banning the enforcement of eviction orders for renters affected by COVID-19 through May 31, 2020. The order prohibits landlords from evicting tenants for nonpayment of rent and prohibits enforcement of evictions by law enforcement or courts. It also requires tenants to declare in writing, no more than seven days after the rent comes due, that the tenant cannot pay all or part of their rent due to COVID-19.

The tenant would be required to retain documentation but not required to submit it to the landlord in advance. And the tenant would remain obligated to repay full rent in a timely manner and could still face eviction after the enforcement moratorium is lifted. The order takes effect immediately, and provides immediate relief to tenants for whom rent is due on April 1<sup>st</sup>.

Today's action builds on Governor Newsom's previous [executive order](#) authorizing local governments to halt evictions for renters impacted by the pandemic.

A copy of the Governor's executive order can be found [here](#) and the text of the order can also be found [here](#).

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### **Governor Newsom Issues Executive Order to Protect Renters and Homeowners During COVID-19 Pandemic**

- *The Executive Order authorizes local governments to halt evictions, slows foreclosures, and protects against utility shut offs*

SACRAMENTO – Governor Gavin Newsom today issued an executive order that authorizes local governments to halt evictions for renters and homeowners, slows foreclosures, and protects against utility shutoffs for Californians affected by COVID-19.

The Executive Order comes as Californians are experiencing substantial loss of hours or wages, or layoffs related to COVID-19, affecting their ability to keep up with their rents, mortgages, and utility bills.

"People shouldn't lose or be forced out of their home because of the spread of COVID-19," said Governor Newsom. "Over the next few weeks, everyone will have to make sacrifices – but a place to live shouldn't be one of them. I strongly encourage cities and counties take up this authority to protect Californians."

The order does not relieve a tenant from the obligation to pay rent, or restrict the landlord's ability to recover rent that is due. The protections are in effect through May 31, 2020, unless extended. The order also requests banks and other financial institutions to halt foreclosures and related evictions during this time period.

The Governor's Executive Order asks the California Public Utilities Commission to monitor measures undertaken by public and private utility providers to implement customer service protections for critical utilities, including electric, gas, water, internet, landline telephone, and cell phone service on a weekly basis.

The full Executive Order can be found [here](#).