BEFORE THE OFFICE OF ADMINISTRATIVE HEARINGS GENERAL JURISDICTION DIVISION STATE OF CALIFORNIA

GENERAL ORDERS

Under Governor Newsom's Proclamation of a State of Emergency and Executive Order N-25-20 arising out of the COVID-19 pandemic, and any subsequent additional emergency orders, the declarations of county and city public health emergencies throughout the state in response to the rapidly-increasing spread of COVID-19, President Trump's declaration of a national emergency over the outbreak, the directives from government officials to ensure and facilitate social distancing, and, in some instances, to shelter in place, to protect the health and safety of the public and administrative court personnel, and under the authority granted under Government Code section 11512, subdivision (b), providing for the exercise of all powers relating to the conduct of hearings when an agency has delegated a matter to an administrative law judge,

The Office of Administrative Hearings (OAH) **HEREBY FINDS AND ORDERS AS FOLLOWS**:

- 1. From March 20, 2020 until April 16, 2020, inclusive, with the exception of matters that are found to be essential as set forth in paragraph 2, or that the OAH determines have a critical need for a hearing as set forth in paragraph 3, all hearing rooms at OAH locations are closed for business, and no hearings at off-site locations will take place.
- 2. Interim and Temporary Suspension Order hearings are essential; those hearings will be held by telephone, with any exhibits filed electronically via OAH's Secure

File Transfer system. Department of Corrections KEYHEA program hearings are essential; those hearings will be held by telephone. Department of State Hospitals hearings are essential; those hearings will be held by telephone or video conferencing. Settlement conferences and mediations will be held by telephone.

3. OAH may determine a specific scheduled event will proceed. OAH will contact parties in cases that have been exempted from this order by OAH. An agency or any party requesting an exemption from this General Order in cases that the agency or party asserts have a critical need for a hearing may file a motion for exemption from this General Order. All motions must be submitted through OAH's online Secure e-File system. Any hearings granted under an exemption to this General Order will be held by telephone or other electronic means unless an Administrative Law Judge determines there is a critical need for holding the hearing in person.

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN THAT ALL OTHER MATTERS HAVE BEEN CONTINUED BY OAH. The parties will receive further notice stating the specific time and date of the continued hearing and other proceedings in specific cases.

THIS ORDER IS EFFECTIVE IMMEDIATELY AND WILL REMAIN IN EFFECT UNTIL APRIL 16, 2020, AND MAY BE AMENDED AS CIRCUMSTANCES REQUIRE.

DATE: March 19, 2020

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ZACKERY P. MORAZZINI

Director and Chief

Administrative Law Judge

Office of Administrative Hearing