

PRESS RELEASE

**ORANGE COUNTY PROBATION DEPARTMENT** 



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## FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE Contact: Jennifer Palmquist Public Information Officer

CHIEF PROBATION OFFICER-STEVE SENTMAN

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## Due to COVID-19 concerns visitation for youth at all of OC Probation Juvenile Facilities will remain suspended until further notice. All <u>non-essential</u> visits to OC Probation Department Regional Offices are temporarily suspended for both adults and juveniles under probation supervision

The Orange County Probation Department is continuing the suspension of visitation until further notice in order to reduce the risk of possible exposure to COVID-19, also known as novel coronavirus. This includes visitation to youth at the Orange County Juvenile Hall, Youth Leadership Academy and Youth Guidance Center. ONLY attorney and professional visits will be allowed during this period. Since the virus is thought to spread mainly from person-to-person, via respiratory droplets produced when an infected person coughs or sneezes, public visiting will be suspended.

All <u>non-essential</u> visits to OC Probation Department Regional Offices are temporarily suspended for both adults and juveniles under probation supervision.

Clients who show up at the field offices will be given additional (posted) information and may speak with the Probation Officer of the Day to evaluate and determine if there is an essential business need for an office visit. If not, clients will be instructed to contact their assigned Deputy Probation Officer by phone.

Clients who were recently released from custody are still required to report to their regional office for further direction and resources.

Staff assigned to Field Operations for both Adult and Juvenile Bureaus will continue to work at their normal office locations and be available to clients by phone.

Day Reporting Centers (DRC) for adults will suspend operations until further notice.

Youth Reporting Centers (YRC) will suspend operations through April 5, 2020.

Please stay updated by checking the Orange County Health Care Agency website: <u>http://www.ochealthinfo.com/novelcoronavirus</u> and the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention's COVID-19 response and prevention recommendations at <u>http://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/index.html</u>.