



ORANGE COUNTY  
SHERIFF'S DEPARTMENT

# NEWS RELEASE

SHERIFF-CORONER DON BARNES

NEWS FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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## **Court-ordered civil evictions resume in Orange County**

**SANTA ANA, Ca. (May 27, 2020)** – The Orange County Sheriff's Department Civil Bureau, which serves civil evictions for all cities and unincorporated areas in the County of Orange, will resume court-ordered civil evictions that were in-process prior to the start of the COVID-19 pandemic. Yesterday, Civil Bureau deputies began contacting tenants to determine if they still reside at the location, and inform them of the court-ordered eviction process proceeding.

A civil eviction is a legal process in which a landlord may terminate a tenant's right to remain on a rental property, and requires a formal court order. Once a judge issues eviction orders, California civil code provides 180 days for the eviction to be served by law enforcement. There are approximately 185 court-ordered evictions that were temporarily suspended when the Civil Bureau ceased activity in mid-March 2020.

The Civil Bureau will begin serving the court-ordered evictions the week of June 1. Despite the fact that these evictions were in process prior to the start of the Governor's order, deputies will work with tenants and landlords to mitigate the possibility that evicted tenants will experience homelessness during the pandemic.

In 2019, the Civil Bureau completed 4,951 court-ordered evictions in Orange County, and from Jan. 1 through mid-March 2020, they completed 1,015 court-ordered evictions.

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