

# The Star-Ledger

## **New Jersey postpones some in-person court dates as coronavirus spreads**

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NJ Advance Media for NJ.com and The Star-Ledger

Published March 15, 2020

Most in-person New Jersey Superior Court business scheduled for Monday or Tuesday have been postponed, state Supreme Court Chief Justice Stuart Rabner announced Sunday.

The move was the state judiciary's latest response to the coronavirus pandemic.

The Superior Court's trial level and tax court are affected, although there are exceptions. New hearing dates have yet to be scheduled.

"On a typical court day, hundreds if not thousands of attorneys, litigants, and inmates appear in courts throughout the state," Rabner said in a statement. "We are limiting physical interactions in our courts and shifting to video and phone conferencing options."

Restraining orders for domestic violence will still be accepted and pretrial detention hearings will continue, among other exceptions, although many proceedings will be moved to phone or video.

Courts will spend March 16 and 17 preparing for virtual proceedings, according to a judiciary spokesman.

Ongoing trials will continue, as will oral arguments before the Supreme Court and Appellate Division.

The state previously suspended all municipal court sessions for two weeks, and halted new jury trials indefinitely.