

COVID-19: Contingency plans for commercial and civil courts (Ile-de-France & other regions)

Paris, 12 May 2020

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1. Useful information

CARPA duty period¹

- The CARPA has set up a duty office every Thursday from 10 am to 2 pm at the *Maison des Avocats*, 11 rue André Suarès 75017 Paris, to enable Parisian lawyers to deposit cheques to the order of the CARPA,
- There will be no physical reception, the envelopes will be deposited in a box provided for this purpose without possibility of acknowledgement of receipt.

Maison des avocats²

- The reopening of the *Maison des avocats* and of the SVS (sales and legal securities department) to the public is probably postponed to next Wednesday according to schedules and modalities that will be communicated shortly.

Provision of masks³

- Provision of masks for on-duty lawyers from 22 April 2020,
- Withdrawal by the referring or on-duty lawyers, every day at the following times:
 - Maison des Avocats (17e): 9am to 10am,
 - Maison du Barreau: 8am to 9.30am and 1pm to 2.30pm,
- Any lawyer can also obtain masks on the PRAEFERENTIA platform.

Toque⁴

- *Toque* service is momentarily interrupted,
- The mail service of the courts is at a standstill, therefore:
 - No mail has been delivered to the *toque* since 17 March,
 - No mail may be submitted for dispatch.

¹ Communication n°51 and 55 of the Paris Bar Association

² Flash info « Reprise d'activité » from the Paris Bar Association, 11 May 2020

³ Communication n°57 of the Paris Bar Association

⁴ Vademecum of the Paris Bar Association

Emergency Mediation for Companies⁵

- Mediation group set up by the Paris Bar for companies, their partners and employees,
- Aim: to build, with the help of a mediating lawyer, a solution adapted to their conflicts, whether they are internal (social) or in relation with their partners, associates, co-contractors, managers, employees or landlords (sudden termination of commercial relationships, difficulties linked to subcontracting, discrimination, etc.),
- Only by videoconference on the digital platform of the Paris Bar Association dedicated to ADR:
 - Individual interview within 24/48 hours after referral to the mediator,
 - Recommendation of a lawyer's presence,
 - Solicitation of a maximum fixed lump sum fee of 300 euros per mediation meeting,
- Acceleration of the homologation process for agreements resulting from mediation where necessary.

Resumption of activity in judicial courts⁶

- Lifting of contingency plans from 11 May,
- First 3 weeks after the lifting of contingency plans: processing of priority judicial activity and situation assessment,
- Resumption of activity in accordance with the principle of subsidiarity, and taking into account the regional health situation and the situation of jurisdictional staff,
- Implementation of health and physical distancing measures in the jurisdictions,
- Jurisdictional activity governed solely by rotation orders and memos issued by the courts, which must ensure priority treatment of the following litigations (civil activity):
 - Urgent proceedings and petitions before the President of the Judicial Tribunal and the litigation protection judge:
 - Urgent summary proceedings,
 - Funeral litigation,
 - Over-indebtedness claims,
 - Urgent petitions before the Judicial Tribunal:
 - Urgent proceedings on the merits,
 - Urgent petitions before the civil enforcement judge,
 - Petitions that are subject to a very short deadline or that are particularly sensitive and urgent, especially before the social division, or that require a quick response,
 - Handling of oppositions regarding complete transmission of assets or reduction of capital,
 - Liberty and detention judge: forced hospitalization and foreigners' litigation,
 - Family judge and children's judge: family litigation when the family life or the interests of the child are directly affected,

⁵ Paris Bar Association Newsletter, 29 April 2020

⁶ Note from the Ministry of Justice dated 5 May 2020

- Protection litigation judge - major tutelage: urgent requests or those requiring a fast response,
- Enforcement judge: contestation of forced enforcement measures, urgent applications or applications with economic and social implications,
- Economic litigation: handling of petitions based on Book VI of the French Commercial Code: appointment of a *mandataire ad hoc*, conciliator, homologation or acknowledgement of conciliation agreements, opening of insolvency proceedings, business disposals in the event of social implications, amicable agricultural agreements,
- Employment law summary proceedings,
- Further details and information:
https://www.cnb.avocat.fr/sites/default/files/note_050520_reprise_dactivite.pdf

Resumption of activity of the Maisons de la justice et du droit (*justice and law service centers*)⁷

- Resumption of activity in the MJDs of Paris Nord-Est and Paris Sud,
 - Reception of phone calls and e-mails,
 - Initial legal information is provided,
 - Organization of appointments (by telephone) with legal professionals and lawyers of the associations,
- MJD Paris Nord-Ouest and Access Point to Paris Judicial Tribunal: closed until 1st June included.

Announcements⁸

- 7 May 2020: The French council of physicians says it is in favour of resuming medical expertise, subject to the collection of consent and the implementation of the necessary protective measures. It recommends a postponement of the expertise in case of symptoms suspected of an infection by Covid-19.

⁷ "Reprise progressive de l'accueil dans les MJD Paris Nord-Est et Paris Sud" Note from the Judicial Tribunal of Paris, 7 May 2020

⁸ « Guide pratique de la reprise d'activité » - Paris Bar Association

2. Jurisdictional Emergency Government Measures as of 26 March 2020

Pursuant to Article 11 (I) (2°) of Law No. 2020-290 dated 23 March 2020 relating to emergency measures to handle the covid-19 epidemic, the Government has been empowered to take, by ordinance, any measure to deal with the consequences, particularly of a jurisdictional nature, of the spread of this epidemic.

2.1. The extension of time limits/deadlines expiring during the health emergency period

By Ordinance No. 2020-306 dated 25 March 2020 on the extension of time limits which expire during the period of public health emergency and the adaptation of procedures during the same period (hereinafter "**Ordinance 1**"), the Government took the following jurisdictional emergency measures:

https://www.legifrance.gouv.fr/affichTexte.do;jsessionid=13167077B521BF5D37ABAC4FFF9E8A4F.tpIgr34s_1?cidTexte=JORFTEXT000041755644&dateTexte=&oldAction=rechJO&categorieLien=id&idJO=JORFCONT000041755510

➤ **The scope of the Ordinance (Articles 1 and 14 of Ordinance 1)**

- Temporal scope: Time limits and measures expiring between 12 March 2020 and the expiry of a period of one month from the end date of the health emergency (which would a priori be set for 24 May 2020) (hereinafter "**the Health Emergency Period**");
- Material scope: Time limits and measures expiring during the Health Emergency Period, including measures restricting freedom and those limiting a constitutionally guaranteed right or freedom, provided that they do not entail an extension beyond 30 June 2020;

Exclusion from the material scope: A certain number of deadlines and measures involving, in particular, criminal law, the electoral code, custodial measures, financial obligations and guarantees mentioned in Articles L. 211-36 of the monetary and financial code, as well as those that have been subject to other specific adaptations by the emergency law dated 23 March 2020 to deal with the Covid-19 epidemic or in application thereof;

- Territorial scope: In Metropolitan France, in the Wallis and Futuna Islands, in French Polynesia, except for certain provisions (see Article 14 paragraph 2 of the Ordinance) and in New Caledonia, except for certain provisions (see Article 14 paragraph 3 of the Ordinance);

➤ **Measures relating to legal time limits/deadlines**

- ✓ **Postponement of the term and expiry of statutory/legal deadlines provided for under penalty of nullity, foreclosure, being time barred, unenforceability etc. (Article 2 of Ordinance 1)**

- Covered acts: Any act, recourse, legal action, formality, registration, declaration, notification or publication prescribed by law or regulation under penalty of nullity, sanction, exceeding the statute of limitations, foreclosure, being time barred, unenforceability, inadmissibility, expiration of instance/discontinuation, automatic claim withdrawal, application of a special regime, voidability or forfeiture of any right whatsoever and which should have been carried out during the Health Emergency Period, as well as any payment prescribed by law for the acquisition or retention of a right;
 - Measure taken by the Government: All the above-mentioned acts shall be **deemed to have been made on time** provided that they were made within a period which may not exceed, as from the end of the Health Emergency Period, the legally prescribed time limit for taking the said act and at the most within two months.
- ✓ **Automatic extension of certain administrative or jurisdictional measures (Article 3 of Ordinance1)**
- Covered administrative or jurisdictional measures and for which the term expires during the Health Emergency Period:
 - Interim measures, investigative, conciliatory or mediatory measures;
 - Prohibition or suspension measures which have not been pronounced as a sanction;
 - Authorisations, permits and accreditations;
 - Measures of assistance, accompanying or support for people in social difficulty;
 - Measures to assist in the management of the family budget.
 - Measure taken by the Government: **Automatic extension until the end of a period of two months following the end of the Health Emergency Period**;
 - Please note: The judge or competent authority may modify or terminate these measures if they were pronounced prior to 12 March 2020.
- **Measures relating to contractual time limits/deadlines**
- ✓ **Suspension of periodic penalty payments, penalty clauses/liquidated damages provisions, termination clauses and clauses providing for forfeiture (Article 4 of Ordinance 1)**
- Covered contractual clauses: Penalty payments, penalty clauses/liquidated damages provisions, termination clauses and clauses providing for forfeiture, when their purpose is to sanction the failure to perform an obligation within a specified period and which took effect or should have taken effect during the Health Emergency Period;
 - Measures taken by the Government:

- If the time limit for the penalty payment or fixed by the above-mentioned clauses expires during the Health Emergency Period: the clauses are deemed to not having taken effect;
- The periodic penalty payments and the above-mentioned clauses **take effect after one month following the end of the Health Emergency Period** if the debtor has not fulfilled his obligation before that date;
- If the periodic penalty payments and penalty clauses took effect prior to 12 March 2020: their course is **suspended** until the end of the Health Emergency Period, they will take effect the very next day.

✓ **Extension of termination notice periods (Article 5 of Ordinance 1)**

- Covered clauses: Clauses providing for termination of the agreement or providing for automatic renewal of the agreement in the absence of termination during the Health Emergency Period;
- Measure taken by the Government: The above-mentioned period or time limit shall be **extended for two months** after the end of the Health Emergency Period.

2.2. The adaptation of the rules applicable to Courts of the judicial order ruling in non-criminal matters

By Ordinance No. 2020-304 dated 25 March 2020 adapting the rules applicable to Courts ruling in non-criminal matters and to contracts of property-manager of the co-ownership community (hereinafter "**Ordinance 2**"), the Government took the following jurisdictional emergency measures:

https://www.legifrance.gouv.fr/affichTexte.do;jsessionid=13167077B521BF5D37ABAC4FFF9E8A4F.tpIgf34s_1?cidTexte=JORFTEXT000041755577&dateTexte=&oldAction=rechJO&categorieLien=id&idJO=JORFCONT000041755510

➤ **The scope of the Ordinance (Articles 1 and 23 of Ordinance 2)**

- Material scope: The Courts of the judicial order ruling on non-criminal matters;
 - Temporal scope: The above-mentioned Courts ruling during the Health Emergency Period (as a reminder, between 12 March 2020 and the expiry of a period of one month from the end date of the health emergency);
 - Territorial scope: In Metropolitan France, in the Wallis and Futuna Islands (Article 23 of Ordinance 2).
- **Postponement of the term and expiry of statutory/legal periods in proceedings before the Courts of the judicial order ruling in non-criminal matters (Article 2 of Ordinance 1 and Ordinance 2)**

- Covered acts: Reference to Article 2 of Ordinance 1;
- Measure taken by the Government: Reference to Article 2 of Ordinance 1 – all the above-mentioned acts shall be **deemed to have been made on time** provided that they were made within a period which may not exceed, as from the end of the Health Emergency Period, the legally prescribed time limit for taking the said act and at the most within two months;
- Exceptions:
 - The procedural deadlines for proceedings before the **liberty and custody judge** and before the first president of the Court of Appeal hearing an appeal against the decisions of that judge shall run in accordance with the legislative and regulatory rules applicable to them;
 - The procedural deadlines for proceedings before the **Juvenile Courts** are adapted in accordance with articles 13 to 21 of Ordinance 2;
 - The time limits mentioned in Articles L. 311-1 to L. 322-14 and R. 311-1 to R. 322-72 of the code of civil enforcement procedures, relating to the **seizure of real property**, are **suspended** during the Health Emergency Period.
- **Adaptation of the rules relating to territorial jurisdiction in case of total or partial inability of a first instance Court to function (Article 3 of Ordinance 2)**
 - Measure taken by the Government: The First President of the Court of Appeal may designate **another Court of the same nature and within the jurisdiction of the same Court of Appeal** to judge all or part of the activity falling within the jurisdiction of the prevented Court (including cases pending at the date of designation);
 - Formalism of the order: In particular, a publication in two newspapers distributed within the jurisdiction of the Court and any other publicity measures in any place deemed useful.
- **Adaptation of the rules relating to the formations of Courts (Article 5 of Ordinance 2)**
 - Envisaged situation: The pleadings hearing, the closing of the investigation or the decision to rule without a hearing takes place during the Health Emergency Period;
 - Measure taken by the Government: The Court may, by decision of its president, **rule in restricted formation comprising a single judge**, both at first instance and appeal levels, in all cases submitted to it;
 - For the Employment Court: The Court rules in restricted formation comprising an employer advisor and an employee advisor;
- **Communication by any means of postponements, written pleadings, exhibits and judgements**

- ✓ If a pleadings hearing or hearing of a party/witness is cancelled, if the parties are assisted or represented by a lawyer or if they have consented to receiving documents on the "Portail du justiciable" of the Ministry of Justice in accordance with Article 748-8 of the code of civil procedure, **the Court clerk's office shall notify the parties of the postponement of the hearing by any means, in particular electronically.** Failing this, it shall notify them **by any means, in particular by letter** (not necessarily by registered letter with acknowledgement of receipt).

If the defendant does not appear at the hearing to which the case is postponed and has not been summoned in person, the judgement shall be rendered by default (Article 4 of Ordinance 2);

- ✓ The parties **may exchange their written pleadings and exhibits by any means** if the judge can ensure that the adversarial principle is respected (Article 6 of Ordinance 2);
- ✓ Without prejudice to the provisions relating to their notification, **judgements shall be brought to the attention of the parties by any means** (Article 10 of Ordinance 2);

➤ **Adaptation of the rules relating to hearings**

✓ **Arrangements for the publicity of hearings (Article 6 of Ordinance 2)**

- Competent authority: The president of the Court;
- Moment of the decision: Prior to the beginning of the hearing;
- Decisions that may be taken: restricted publicity of the debates, judge's chamber, exceptional presence of journalists.

✓ **The possible implementation of virtual hearings (Article 7 of Ordinance 2)**

- Competent authority: The judge, the presiding judge of the formation or the judge for liberty and detention;
- Means that can be put in place:
 - **Audio-visual telecommunication;**
 - **Electronic or telephone telecommunication;**
 - If a party is assisted by a lawyer or an interpreter, there is no requirement that the lawyer or interpreter be physically present with it/him/her.
- No appeal possible;

- Safeguards put in place by the Government: control by the judge of the respect of the rights of the defence and minutes of the operations carried out drawn up by the Court clerk's office.
- ✓ **The possibility of ruling without a hearing (Article 8 of Ordinance 2)**
 - Competent authority: The judge or the president of the bench;
 - Condition: Procedure in which legal representation is mandatory or where the parties are represented or assisted by a lawyer;
 - Formality: The Court must inform the parties by any means;
 - Possible appeals: Except for summary proceedings, expedited proceedings on the merits and proceedings in which the judge must rule within a specified period, the parties shall have **fifteen days** to object to the proceedings without a hearing. In the absence of an objection, the proceedings shall be conducted exclusively in writing;
- ✓ **The possibility granted to the Judge in summary proceedings to reject a claim prior to the hearing if it is inadmissible or that there are no grounds for summary proceedings (Article 9 of Ordinance 2)**
 - Please note: The order issued is non-adversarial, meaning that the parties will not be able to argue adversely about it.

Additional references:

Law No. 2020-290 dated 23 March 2020 relating to emergency measures to handle the covid-19 epidemic:

<https://www.legifrance.gouv.fr/affichTexte.do?cidTexte=JORFTEXT000041746313&dateTexte=&categorieLien=id>

2.3. Adaptation of the rules applicable to insolvency proceedings

By ordinance n° 2020-341 of March 27, 2020 adapting the rules regarding insolvency proceedings for companies and agricultural exploitations to sanitary emergency (hereinafter « **Ordinance 2bis** ») the Government has taken emergency measures of, pursuant to its article 5:

https://www.legifrance.gouv.fr/affichTexte.do;jsessionid=7D3192E2F01F78E1C90C7996CA0AE2CE.tp_lgfr22s_1?cidTexte=JORFTEXT000041762344&dateTexte=&oldAction=rechJO&categorieLien=id&idJO=JORFCONT000041762319

➤ **The setting of suspension of payments (Article 1 of Ordinance 2bis)**

- ✓ Ordinance 2bis **freezes** as of March 12, 2020 the date to appreciate the state of insolvency of companies and agricultural exploitations regarding their potential suspension of

payments from March 12, 2020 and during the sanitary emergency period plus three months, whether they experience an aggravation of their financial situation and face a suspension of payments thereafter. This will enable companies meeting insolvency criteria, to nevertheless be eligible to preventive proceedings.

➤ **Adaptation of procedural delays (Articles 1 and 2 of Ordinance 2bis)**

- ✓ Loosening of delays set by provisions applicable to conciliation proceedings and the execution of safeguard and receivership plans
- ✓ Possibility to resume creditors work out negotiations immediately to find an agreement
- ✓ Possibility for the court to determine three level of plan extension without going through the formal process for substantial modification of an existing plan:
 - Relaxation applicable for the duration of the sanitary emergency period plus three months,
 - Upon the request of the public prosecutor, for an additional year,
 - After the sanitary emergency period has expired plus three months, for a period corresponding to the predictable period of the disorders that the crisis could have generated on companies' treasury
- ✓ Quicker intervention of the "AGS" (French redundancy fund) for the salary receivables
- ✓ Possibility for the president of the court to extend the time limits imposed to court officers that it has appointed, upon request of such court officers, for a duration up to the expiry of the sanitary emergency period plus three months
- ✓ Extension, until the expiry of a one-month-period after the end of the sanitary emergency and for an equivalent period:
 - Of the time limits applicable to the observation period, the plan, the continuation of the activity and the duration of simplified judicial liquidation
 - Of the time limits mentioned in points b, c and d of point 2° and the time limits mentioned in point 5° of article L. 3253-8 of the Employment Code,
- ✓ Removal of the mandatory holding of an intermediary court hearing during the observation period of receivership proceedings

➤ **Loosening of certain formalities (Article 2 of Ordinance 2bis)**

- ✓ Petitions filed by debtors to courts can be filed by any means. Debtors can apply for an authorisation to file its claims in writing. Proceedings before the president of the court can be conducted by any means.

- ✓ Communications between courts administration services, judicial receiver and creditor representative as well as between proceedings' representatives can take place by any means

2.4. Adaptation of the rules applicable before administrative courts

By ordinance n ° 2020-305 of March 25, 2020 adapting the rules applicable before administrative courts (hereinafter "**Ordinance 3**") the Government has taken emergency measures of a jurisdictional nature below :

https://www.legifrance.gouv.fr/affichTexte.do;jsessionid=FBEA247A227CE9A9E4730D7FF8C24E01.tp_lgfr41s_3?cidTexte=JORFTEXT000041755612&dateTexte=&oldAction=rechJO&categorieLien=id&idJO=JORFCONT000041755510

- **The scope of the Ordinance (Articles 1,2, 17 et 18 of Ordinance 3)**
 - Material scope: Courts of the judicial order ruling on administrative matters;
 - Temporal scope: The above-mentioned Courts ruling during the Health Emergency Period (as a reminder, between 12 March 2020 and the expiry of a period of one month from the end date of the health emergency);
 - Territorial scope: In Metropolitan France and in the Wallis and Futuna Islands.
- **Postponement of the term and expiry of statutory/legal periods in proceedings before the Courts of the judicial order ruling in administrative matters (Article 2 of Ordinance 1 and Ordinance 3)**
 - Covered acts: Reference to Article 2 of Ordinance 1;
 - Measure taken by the Government: Reference to Article 2 of Ordinance 1 – all the above-mentioned acts shall be **deemed to have been made on time** provided that they were made within a period which may not exceed, as from the end of the Health Emergency Period, the legally prescribed time limit for taking the said act and at the most within two months;
 - Exceptions:
 - Appeals against the **obligations to leave French territory**, subject to those provided for in the first paragraph of III of article L. 512-1 of the French code for the entry and stay of foreigners and the right to asylum, as well as the remedies provided for in Articles L. 731-2 and L. 742-4 of the same code, for which the appeal period is postponed until the day after the end of the state of health emergency;

- The time limits applicable to the procedures provided for in Article L. 213-9 and in the first paragraph of III of Article L. 512-1 of the French Code for the entry and stay of foreigners and the right to asylum are not subject to the limit adaptations;
- The **complaints and appeals** mentioned in article R. 119 of the French electoral code **filed against the electoral operations** of the first round of municipal elections organized **on March 15, 2020** may be made no later than 6:00 p.m. on the fifth day following the date taking office of municipal and community councillors elected from this turn according to the laws and regulations applicable to them.

➤ **Adaptation of the rules relating the formation of Courts (Article 3 of Ordinance 3)**

- Envisaged situation: **dismissal of conclusions** requesting a stay of execution of appealed decisions and dismissal of requests against ordinances;
- Measures taken by the government: **the magistrates** with the rank of councilor and a minimum seniority of two years **may rule by ordinance** under the conditions provided for in article R. 222-1 of the French code of administrative justice.
- Impediments of magistrates: the president of administrative courts and administrative courts of appeal may add one or more magistrates working in one of these jurisdictions or appoint honorary magistrates.

➤ **Communication by any means of adjournments, written pleadings, exhibits and judgements (Article 5 of Ordinance 3)**

➤ **Adaptation of the rules relating to audiences**

✓ **Arrangements for public hearings (Articles 6, 8, 9, 10 and 14 of Ordinance 3)**

- Competent authority: The president of the Court;
- Moment of the decision: Before the opening of the hearing;
- Decisions that can be taken: Restricted publicity of proceedings, dispensation of the public rapporteur's conclusions at a hearing, possibility of ruling without a hearing on applications for interim measures and on applications for a stay of execution as well as in judgments relating to removal orders taken against foreigners placed in a detention center;

- Appeals: Decisions taken without a hearing by the summary proceedings judge seized on the basis of Article L. 521-2 of the French Code of Administrative Justice may be appealed when they have not been rendered in application of article L. 522-3 of the same code.

✓ **The exemption from certain formalities (Articles 11, 12 et 13 of Ordinance 3)**

- The decision can be made public by making it available to the court's administration services.
- The minute of the decision may be signed only by the president of the trial panel.
- When a party is represented by a lawyer, the notification provided for in article R. 751-3 of the French code of administrative justice is validly accomplished by sending the decision to its representative.

✓ **The possible implementation of dematerialised hearings (Article 7 of Ordinance 3)**

- Competent authority: The judge, the presiding judge of the formation or the liberty and detention judge;
- Means that can be put in place:
 - **Audio-visual telecommunication;**
 - **Electronic or telephone telecommunication;**
 - If a party is assisted by a lawyer or an interpreter, there is no requirement that the lawyer or interpreter be physically present with them.
- No appeal possible;

2.5. Adaptation of the rules of criminal procedure on the basis of the law n ° 2020-290 of March 23, 2020 emergency to face the epidemic of covid-19 (Ordinance n ° 2020-303 of March 25, 2020)

By Ordinance No. 2020-303 dated 25 March 2020 adapting the rules of criminal procedure during the health emergency period (hereinafter "**Ordinance 4**"), the Government took the following jurisdictional emergency measures in order to allow the continuity of the activity of the criminal jurisdictions essential to the maintenance of public order:

https://www.legifrance.gouv.fr/affichTexte.do;jsessionid=FBEA247A227CE9A9E4730D7FF8C24E01.tpJgfr41s_3?cidTexte=JORFTEXT000041755529&dateTexte=&oldAction=rechJO&categorieLien=id&idJO=JORFCONT000041755510

➤ **The scope of the Ordinance (Article 2 of Ordinance 4)**

- Temporal scope: Time limits and measures expiring between 12 March 2020 and the expiry of a period of one month from the end date of the health emergency (which would a priori be set for 24 May 2020) (hereinafter "**the Health Emergency Period**");
- Material scope: Courts of law ruling in criminal matters;
- Territorial scope: The entire French territory;

➤ **Measures relating to legal time limits/deadlines**

- **Postponement of the term and expiry of statutory limitation periods (Article 3 of Ordinance 4)**
 - Covered acts: Statutory limitation of public prosecution, statutory limitation of the sentence;
 - Measures taken by the government: All of the aforementioned statutory limitation periods will be suspended from March 12, 2020 until one month after the end of the Health Emergency Period.
- **Extension of the time limits set by the French Code of Criminal Procedure for the exercise of a remedy (Article 4 of Ordinance 4)**
 - Covered acts: All remedies except for the four-hour time limit set out in article 148-1-1 of the French Code of Criminal Procedure, relating to the ban on release from pre-trial detention;
 - Measures taken by the government: All statutory limitations for exercising legal remedies are doubled without being less than ten days; All requests can be made by registered letter with acknowledgment of receipt (including the filing of briefs and conclusions) and can be sent by email to the email address provided for this purpose by the judicial tribunal or the court of appeal. Emails addressed to a jurisdiction must be the subject of an acknowledgment of receipt and are considered to have been received by the jurisdiction on the date of sending of this acknowledgment. The sending date of the acknowledgment of receipt set the start of the time limits provided for by the French code of criminal procedure, modified by the ordinance.

- **The extension of the maximum periods of pre-trial detention or house arrest under electronic surveillance set by the French Code of Criminal Procedure are automatically extended by two months (Article 16 of Ordinance 4)**
- **The increase in the time for immediate trial proceedings provided for in the French Code of Criminal Procedure (Article 17 of Ordinance 4)**
- **The increase in the time limits allowed to a trial court by the French code of criminal procedure to rule on a request for release (Article 18 of Ordinance 4)**
- **The extension of the time limits for judgment given to the *Cour de Cassation* (Article 20 of Ordinance 4)**
 - The three-month time limit for the judgment of the *Cour de Cassation* has been extended to six months;
 - The 40-day time limit for a ruling by the *Cour de Cassation* has been extended to three months;
 - The five-day time limit for filing briefs is extended to one month.
- **The adaptation of the rules relating to territorial jurisdiction in the event of total or partial inability of a court of first instance to function (Articles 8, 9, 10, 11 and 12 of Ordinance 4).**
- **Adaptation of the rules relating to hearings**
 - **Adaptation of the publicity of hearings (Article 7 of Ordinance 4)**
 - Competent authority: The president of the court;
 - Timing of decision: Before the hearing begins;
 - Decisions that may be taken: Restricted public access to the proceedings, closed hearing, council chamber, exceptional presence of journalists.
- **The possible implementation of dematerialized hearings (Article 5 of Ordinance 4)**
 - Competent authority: The judge or the judge of liberty and detention before all criminal courts other than criminal courts ;
 - Means that may be put in place:
 - Audiovisual telecommunication;

- Electronic or telephone telecommunication, in case of technical or material impossibility to use audiovisual telecommunication;
 - If a party is assisted by counsel or an interpreter, it is not required that the latter be physically present with the party.
 - These rules may apply in the case of police custody.
- **The adaptation of the rules relating to the assignment of prisoners and the enforcement of custodial sentences (Articles 21 to 29 of Ordinance 4).**
- Covered acts: Assignment of persons under charges, remanded, accused and convicted persons;
 - Action taken by the Government: Possibility of assigning inmates to a sentencing institution, remand home or to be incarcerated or transferred to a penitentiary institution for the purpose of fighting the covid-19 epidemic;
 - Appeal: The person's lawyer may make oral submissions to the court, if necessary by means of audiovisual telecommunication guaranteeing the confidentiality of the exchanges.

2.6. Additional references:

Law No. 2020-290 dated 23 March 2020 relating to emergency measures to handle the covid-19 epidemic:

<https://www.legifrance.gouv.fr/affichTexte.do?cidTexte=JORFTEXT000041746313&dateTexte=&categorieLien=id>

3. Ile-de-France Courts

[NB: Implementation of a pre-trial participatory platform by the Paris Bar Association.](#)

3.1. Judicial Tribunals contingency plans

Auxerre Judicial Tribunal (*Tribunal judiciaire d'Auxerre*)⁹

Civil enforcement proceedings:

- All hearings are adjourned,
- Possibility to refer to the tribunal by email but no information on the processing times and there will be no hearings until further notice.

Summary proceedings:

- Short notice summary proceedings (*référé d'heure à heure*): possible referral by email, for a physical audience with the president.

Preventive and insolvency proceedings:

- Everything is adjourned and requests will not necessarily be processed,
- Emergencies: possibility to request a court hearing.

Bobigny Judicial Tribunal (*Tribunal judiciaire de Bobigny*)¹⁰

All hearings, interviews and interrogations are cancelled.

Civil cases:

- Written proceedings: Hearings already scheduled will be subject to a notice of adjournment by RPVA and no rescheduled dates will be given until further notice,
- Oral proceedings: if the parties have a lawyer, they will be informed of the adjournment by RPVA; if not, they will be informed by means of display, telephone or e-mail.

⁹ Switchboard of the court's administration services

¹⁰ Communication n°13 of the Paris Bar Association

"Guide pratique de la reprise d'activité" - Paris Bar Association

Immovable property seizures: cancelled until further notice.

Sentence enforcement service :

- Hearing without debate for mid-sentence as a priority, for end of sentence from 0 to 6 months, for suspension of sentence for medical reasons,
- No hearing without debate for domestic violence,
- Remember to send the housing certificate specifying who will be present at home (fragile adult or not),
- Contact for closed quarters: send an email to the sentence enforcement judge,
- Requests for release: to be sent by fax (01.48.96.23.00).

The following are maintained:

- The duty period of the prosecutor's office,
- Hearings related to litigation involving fundamental public rights and ensuring that urgent criminal cases are dealt with:
 - 1 collegial panel to decide on a daily basis on detention, pre-trial detention and judicial supervision,
 - 1 single-judge panel to rule on judicial supervision,
 - Presentations before the examining magistrate and the liberty and detention judges (*juges des libertés et de la détention*)
 - Hearings of a civil nature (hospitalization under duress, maintained foreigners),
 - Hearings and examinations before the sentence enforcement judge (*juge de l'application des peines*) and sentence enforcement commissions for the management of emergencies, giving priority to videoconferencing,
- The summary proceedings justified by a particular urgency and upon authorization to summon, and urgent measures upon filing petitions, urgent measures within the jurisdiction of the family court (including protection orders).

Further details:

- Cases falling within the jurisdiction of the litigation protection judges (*juges des contentieux de la protection*) justified by urgency will, upon authorisation to summon, be dealt with exclusively by the Bobigny local chamber.
- Preference will be given to the use of videoconferencing and closed hearings.

Resumption plan:

- For hearings cancelled during containment (written proceedings and oral proceedings with mandatory representation): until 11 May, lawyers may notify the Chamber in charge of the case by RPVA of their agreement to file their case without a hearing.
- Same for the summary proceedings,

- Each pleading file must be filed submitted to the SAUJ within 5 days following the magistrate's agreement, in a kraft envelope specifying the chamber and the law firm concerned as well as the RG number,
- The files may also be deposited at the Maison de l'Avocat et du Droit (the services of the Order will then forward them to the SAUJ),
- As of 11 May, the magistrates will take over and will suggest, as a priority, the submission of files instead of hearings,
- Short-notice summary proceedings requests should be made on the structural summary proceedings box (referes.tjbobigny@justice.fr),
- Substantive files (fixed days and other requests), a paper filing will have to be ensured at the SAUJ and the requests will be examined by the competent chamber,
- Except in exceptional cases, requests cannot be supported,
- Social Pole: Hearings remain suspended until further notice,
- Civil enforcement judge for personal property:
 - Hearings not held before 11 May: procedures without a hearing,
 - Hearings after May 11th: submission of the file,
- Seizures and sales: hearings cancelled until further notice,
- Proximity chambers: possibility of using the procedure without a hearing.

Créteil Judicial Tribunal (*Tribunal judiciaire de Créteil*)¹¹

- Closing of the court, except for the handling of essential litigation and in particular emergency summary proceedings.
- As for seizures and insolvency proceedings: this is not part of the list of what is maintained, so everything should be suspended.

Criminal proceedings:

- Only immediate trial hearings, collegial hearings with detained persons, closed quarters sentence enforcement hearings, and hearings upon deferral or warrant, juveniles upon deferral, and juvenile court hearings with detained juveniles are now covered,
- Immediate trial hearings: priority given to domestic violence and burglary,
- Claim for criminal indemnification (*constitution de partie civile*) in immediate trials: to be regularized by mail, by the on-duty lawyer or by the litigants directly,
- Correctional hearings outside the permanence and juvenile court: likewise,
- Correctional hearings outside the permanence: only hearings in collegial formation with detained persons are maintained,
- Correctional hearings with the accused standing free: the on-duty lawyer is requested to ensure the adjournment whenever possible,

¹¹ *Vademecum of the Paris Bar Association*

- Judicial supervision: cases are adjourned while maintaining the previously defined measures of judicial supervision,
- Juveniles: interim placement order hearings will be held,
- Permanence for foreigners: permanence is maintained and will be held by videoconference before the liberty and detention judge (*Juge des libertés et de la détention*),
- Coercive hospitalization: hearings will be held by videoconference,
- Liberty and detention judge: hearings will be held by videoconference;

Other information:

- Correctional administration service: telephone permanence from 1.30pm to 5pm,
- Call the switchboard to be redirected to the on-duty court clerk.

Evry Judicial Tribunal (*Tribunal judiciaire d'Evry*)¹²

Civil division / economic and social division:

- A permanence is maintained every day, except weekends and public holidays, for requests and short notice summary proceedings (*référéés d'heure à heure*), for enforcement judge applications and one hearing per week for urgent JEX (enforcement judge) cases,
- One summary proceedings hearing per week, reserved for urgent matters, on Tuesday mornings.
 - Summary proceedings under Article 145 of the French Civil Procedure Code: Requests for the appointment of an expert should be sent by e-mail (referes.tj-evry@justice.fr),
 - New cases - summary proceedings on summons: summonses for May and June 2020 cases are to be issued but their examination will be postponed by 2 months.
- On the merits:
 - summonses must be placed but will not be enrolled,
 - all deliberations due since 16 March are extended as of 2 June 2020,
 - civil cases are systematically adjourned, with lawyers being notified by e-mail by the court's administration service and unrepresented parties by simple letter.

Insolvency proceedings:

- Declarations of insolvency may be filed at the Civil Insolvency Proceedings administration service.

Criminal division:

¹² Communication n°22 of the Paris Bar Association

- One criminal collegial hearing for immediate trial (*comparution immédiate*) by day in the afternoon (Chamber 10),
- One criminal collegial hearing (Chamber 5, 7 and 9) by day, in the afternoon, reserved for cases with pre-trial detention and judicial supervision,
- All single-judge hearings requiring continued judicial supervision.

Services of the liberty and detention judge (*juge de la liberté et de la détention*):

- A criminal permanence every day, weekends and public holidays,
- One to two coercive hospitalization hearings per week, on Tuesday and Wednesday mornings,
- A daily detention hearing of foreigners as needed.

Investigation service:

- A criminal permanence every day, weekends and public holidays,
- Requests for release are processed; they must be sent by e-mail (cep.instruction.tgi-evry@justice.fr) and will be examined if the necessary documents are scanned and attached to the request.

Sentence enforcement service:

- One open permanence and one closed permanence for semi-freedom centre and placement under electronic surveillance,
- One hearing dedicated to emergencies every two weeks (provisional imprisonment orders, suspensions of sentence adjustment in jail, suspensions of sentence on medical grounds that could not be treated without debate),
- Requests for sentence adjustment must be sent exclusively by e-mail, faxes will no longer be accepted,
- Requests must be sent by e-mail (sc.jap.tj-evry@justice.fr) with all the necessary attachments.

Local courts (*Tribunaux de proximité*) within the Essonne jurisdiction:

- Civil summonses for hearings before the local courts of Evry-Courcouronnes, Juvisy, Longjumeau, Palaiseau and Etampes, issued for hearings until 30 April, should be addressed (until 31 March 2020) to Ms TRONCHE, the referent clerk for all the local courts, by e-mail,
- Petitions for the president of the local court are to be filed at the Judicial Tribunal during the Tuesday morning permanence (10am - 11am) and will be transmitted to the president.

Meaux Judicial Tribunal (*Tribunal judiciaire de Meaux*)

In criminal matters:

- The single-judge and collegial hearings are grouped together at 1:30 pm,

- Cases are automatically adjourned, except for immediate trials, applications for release after adjournment, and the liberty and detention judge,
- A reception desk is available at the SAUJ for the deposit of urgent acts, until 5pm,
- Correctional court's administration services : corr.tj-meaux@justice.fr.

Nanterre Judicial Tribunal (*Tribunal judiciaire de Nanterre*)¹³

- Requests for release can be sent by RPVA or submitted to the court's administration services,
- All requests for deeds, and appeals, are to be made on the premises.

Criminal division

Correctional division:

- One single correctional hearing involving all correctional chambers,
- Only the following cases are judged:
 - Immediate trials of the day,
 - Immediate trials on referral with detained defendants,
 - Other cases with detained defendants,
 - Requests for release
- Cases with defendants under judicial review called for a hearing to set the date of adjournment,
- Cases in which the defendants are not subject to any security measures that have been adjourned without a date and are no longer raised in court.

Hauts-de-Seine Assize court: all the sessions scheduled during the contingency plan have been cancelled.

Investigation:

- An examining magistrate and a court clerk on duty every day,
- Only emergencies are processed (requests for release, etc.).

Sentence enforcement: only emergencies are processed (revocation of sentence adjustment or suspended sentence with probation / probationary suspension, adjustment of short sentences or short remainders).

Family judge:

- Only emergencies are processed: mainly protection orders,

¹³ *Communication n°19 of the Paris Bar Association*
Vademecum of the Paris Bar Association
"Guide pratique de la reprise d'activité" - Paris Bar Association

- Pleadings files to be deposited on the 2nd floor of the Annex.

Juvenile court / juvenile judge: Only some residual hearings of detained juveniles are provided during the contingency plan.

Resumption plan as of 11 May:

- **Correctional Service:**
 - Continuation of the 16th Chamber hearing with immediate trials as during the contingency plan,
 - Opening of new hearings:
 - Two more collegial hearings per week,
 - Three single-judge hearings a week,
 - Priorities:
 - Cases with detained persons,
 - Special hearings (over one or more days with or without detainees),
 - Cases of violence against persons, domestic violence and sexual assault,
 - Redirection of other cases: criminal composition, guilty pleas or rehearing (knowing that the role is virtually complete until March 2021), possibly discontinued,
- **Hauts-de-Seine Assize court:**
 - Resumption of activity,
 - The first session following deconfinement will be held on 18 May,
- **Criminal permanences:**
 - Resumption of the usual schedule as of 11 May (to be confirmed),
 - Resumption of police custody and disciplinary committee duty from 11 May (to be confirmed),
- **Permanence in hospitalization without consent: volunteer lawyers continue to provide duty counsel as long as hearings cannot resume in the health care facilities,**
- **Lawyers appointments: resumption from 11 May (to be confirmed).**

Civil division

Current situation:

- Only emergencies are processed (litigation said to be essential within the meaning of the contingency plan), when justified by a petition,
- The RPVA is not consulted due to the lack of employees and judges on site, and RPVJ is not accessible to people working from home,
- There are no more pre-trial hearings and no more judicial tribunal, civil enforcement proceedings, family affaires, proximity chamber and protection litigation judge hearings.

Resumption plan:

- **Between 11 and 25 May:**
 - Processing of “essential” litigation continues,

- Processing of litigation that will be defined as a priority will start,
- State of play to allow a partial resumption of activity afterwards:
 - Processing the accumulated RPVA,
 - Rendering of the 348 deliberations drafted by the judges during the confinement, requiring editing by the court's administration services and subsequent notification,
 - Mail processing and organization of future hearings,
- Treatment of cases that should have been argued between 16 March and 11 May:
 - Implementation of the procedure without a hearing for all cases to be argued until 24 June,
 - Strong incentive to accept this procedure beyond 24 June,
- Submission of files subject to two conditions:
 - Agreement of all parties,
 - Physical deposit of the pleading files before the hearing date (physical deposit only until further notice).
- Receipt of pleading files in the BRA room from 4 May to 24 June:
 - Submission deadline for cases coming for oral argument between 16 March and 11 May: 25 May,
- Cases previously scheduled from 11 May:
 - Hearings will be re-scheduled,
 - Submission of a paper file accompanied, where appropriate, by a statement mentioning the express agreement of the lawyers to use the procedure without a hearing where such procedure is envisaged,
- General summary proceedings:
 - Orders, pending, must be issued between 11 May and 25 May,
 - Continuation of hearings scheduled for May 19, 26 and 28, subject to the court's administration services staffing levels,
 - Postponement of the May 11 and 12 hearings,
 - Summary proceedings hearings will also be held under the procedure without a hearing, with two judges instead of four,
 - Hearings that should have been held between 16 March and 11 May: adjourned,
- Civil enforcement judge:
 - Resumption as of 12 May,
 - Procedure without a hearing,
 - Adjournment of cases that were to be argued between 16 March and 11 May,
- Short-notice summary proceedings: request upon file submission until September 2020.

Legal aid office:

- Total closure during contingency plan,
- As of May 2020, only one staff member will be mobilizable,
- No return to normal activity before June,
- The legal aid commissions are expected to resume in mid-May subject to the agreements of the other partners involved.

Paris Judicial Tribunal (*Tribunal judiciaire de Paris*)¹⁴

The tribunal is closed except for essential litigation and in particular emergency summary proceedings.

Contacts (emails only processed between 9am and 4pm):

- For appeals: appel.penal.tgi-paris@justice.fr,
- For requests for documents from investigating judges: dsg.instruction.tgi-paris@justice.fr.

Resumption of public reception as of May 11, 2020:

- SAUJ: from 9am to 12am and from 1pm to 3pm,
- Legal aid office (BAJ):
 - From 9am to 12am,
 - In case of difficulty, contact by email to baj.civil.tgi-paris@justice.fr,
- Victims assistance office (BAV):
 - Telephone reception only, from 9am to 12pm and 1pm to 5pm: 01 44 32 77 08 or 01 45 88 18 00,
 - Contact by email at bav.tgi-paris@justice.fr,
 - Resumption of public reception from 25 May.

Civil enforcement proceedings:

- All hearings are cancelled,
- Extension of deliberations,
- New claims will not be processed,
- No physical or telephone reception
- No formality is required of the parties
- Assignments should be postponed in both movable and immovable matters, with the sole exception of cases in which a period of proceedings must be interrupted:
 - In movable property matters: summonses intended to extend the time for contesting a seizure-award;
 - In real property matters: summonses intended for the extension of payment orders where there is otherwise an order for seizure of real property (*commandement de payer valant saisie*).
 - The corresponding hearings will be postponed to a later date unless activities are back to normal before then,

¹⁴Communications n°7, 11, 12, 13, 39 and 45 of the Paris Bar Association
 Vademecum of the Paris Bar Association
 « Flash Info Reprise d'activité » - Paris Bar Association
 "Guide pratique de la reprise d'activité" - Paris Bar Association
 "Reprise de l'activité du pôle social" – note from the tribunal, 7 May 2020
 Tribunal order n°61/2020, 7 May 2020

- In terms of urgent request for seizure (*requêtes urgentes en saisie*) and permission to make urgent applications (*autorisation d'assigner d'heure à heure*): only extreme urgencies are processed at jex.tgi-paris@justice.fr (1 Mo max),
- **Resumption plan:**
 - Progressive resumption from 11 May 2020,
 - Petitions:
 - From 11 May to 24 June included, petitions for provisional measures may be filed in paper form at the SAUJ or sent to the service by post, and will no longer be received in a dematerialised form,
 - Procedure without hearing,
 - Petitions to summon on short-notice (*requêtes en assignation d'heure à heure*) will be handled the same way. In case of emergency, the paper submission or posting may be doubled by sending an electronic submission to jex.tgi-paris@justice.fr,
 - Forced sales hearings: resumption in September 2020,
 - Conduct of hearings: lawyers are invited to submit their files in writing whenever the parties have made written submissions,
 - Decisions to be issued between 16 March and 11 May 2020: should be available before the end of June,
 - Hearings cancelled between 16 March and 7 May will be automatically reconvened in chronological order:
 - The first reconvened hearings will be held in early June,
 - Applications for a stay of eviction will be dealt with on a priority basis,
 - Personal property litigation hearings:
 - The hearing of 14 May at 10:00 am is cancelled; the hearing of 28 May at 10:00 am is maintained,
 - Hearings will resume on Thursday mornings on a regular schedule beginning June 4,
 - Procedure without a hearing: In both personal property and real estate matters, in certain cases that appear to be ready for trial, this option will be offered to lawyers by means of a RPVA message,
 - Time limits for *saisie-attribution* (seizure and award): time limits for contestation having expired between 12 March and 24 June are extended to 24 July; in this case, the court's administration office will not issue the certificate of non-appeal provided for in Article R. 211-6 of the French Code of Civil Enforcement Proceedings before the end of the period expiring on 24 July 2020.

Summary proceedings and petitions:

- All hearings are cancelled,
- Extension of deliberations,
- Only applications and requests of the utmost urgency will be processed, a permanence is set up,
- The summary proceedings service must be advised in advance of one's intention to come and support a petition, by email (referes.civil.tgi-paris@justice.fr) or by bringing the petition to

the Unique Reception Service for the Justiciable (Service d'Accueil Unique du Justiciable or SAUJ),

- The on-duty magistrate will be Mr. Michaël Haravon, Vice-President.

Civil emergency and specialised summary proceedings:

- Reduced activity for experts and lawyers,
- 3-month extension of the deadline for carrying out civil expertise measures,
- **Plan for resumption of activity from 11 May 2020:**
 - Summary proceedings hearings under general law (including contracts), judicial expertise and appointments scheduled from 11 May onwards: these will take place normally, unless the judge decides to use the procedure without hearing,
 - Specialized summary proceedings hearings from 11 May:
 - Intellectual property: resumption via the procedure without hearing; preference will be given to the dematerialised transmission of documents and submissions using the ATLAS platform,
 - Press and privacy: resumption via the procedure without hearing; preference will be given to the dematerialised transmission of documents and submissions via the ATLAS platform,
 - Employment law: procedure without hearing, in a totally dematerialized circuit; information regarding the protocol and schedule of hearings to be requested by e-mail,
 - Construction: hearings will be held normally, unless the judge decides to use the procedure without hearing,
 - Court administrators, sequestration and exequatur: hearings will be held normally,
 - Hearings of the *juge d'appui* (supporting judge) scheduled from 11 May: the judge may decide to use the procedure without hearing; the dematerialised transmission of documents and submissions via the ATLAS platform will be preferred,
 - Summary proceedings hearings and accelerated proceedings on the merits scheduled between 16 March and 10 May (which had been cancelled):
 - General law summary proceedings: hearings will be reconvened starting June 2020,
 - Expertise: hearings will be reconvened starting May and June 2020,
 - Hearings by appointment: hearings will be reconvened beginning May and June 2020,
 - Press and privacy:
 - Cases scheduled between 16 March and 10 May: resumption via the procedure without hearing,
 - Cases for which the summons was issued before 1 January 2020 and for which at least one defendant has not appointed a lawyer: solutions will have to be found on a case-by-case basis with the referring judge,
 - Intellectual property: resumption via the procedure without hearing,

- Employment law: procedure without hearing, in a totally dematerialised circuit; information regarding the protocol and schedule of hearings to be requested by e-mail,
- Construction: hearings will be reconvened from mid-May 2020; judges may decide to use the procedure without hearing,
- Court administrators, sequestration and exequatur:
 - Court administrators and sequestration: procedure without hearing will be favoured insofar as all parties have appointed a lawyer,
 - Cases summoned prior to 1 January 2020 and cases in which at least one defendant is not represented by a lawyer: an adjournment will be considered unless the defendant(s) not represented by a lawyer agree(s) in writing,
 - Exequatur: adjournment if the prosecution does not make written submissions and make its position known at the hearing,
- Petitions to the president:
 - Resumption of activity from 11 May, but it will not be possible to argue the petitions before summer,
 - Petitions should be deposited at the reception desk on the 6th floor of the summary proceedings office and should include the counsel's e-mail and telephone number,
 - The judge's order will be deposited in the toque along with the documents handed over,
- Permanence of the civil emergency division:
 - Resumption from 11 May on the 6th floor,
 - No requests sent by email will be accepted,
- Permanence of specialized summary proceedings:
 - Intellectual property and accelerated proceedings of the *juge d'appui*: resumption from 11 May; requests for authorization to summon on short notice and requests for hearings by appointment will be examined by the judges two days a week, except in cases of emergency,
 - Press and privacy: normal resumption of the filing of summary proceedings,
 - Employment law summary proceedings: contact the referring judge by e-mail,
- Court administrators, sequestration and exequatur permanence: normal resumption from 11 May on the 6th floor,
- Expertise control service: activity has resumed,
- Additional information:
 - Priority is given to tax and consignment supplement orders,
 - All current measures are automatically extended by 3 months,
 - All received mail is processed progressively,
 - More information:
 - http://dl.avocatparis.org/com/mailling2020/10_reprise_urgences_civiles.pdf
- Vademecum of summary proceedings before the Tribunal:
 - http://dl.avocatparis.org/com/mailling2020/10_vademecum_refere_tjparis.pdf
- Table of adjournment hearings and accelerated proceedings on the merits:
 - <http://dl.avocatparis.org/com/mailling2020/ordonnanceTJ07052020.pdf>

Civil Chambers on the merits:

- All hearings are cancelled,
- Extension of deliberations,
- No physical or telephone reception provided,
- No formality is required of the parties,
- **Resumption plan:**
 - Hearings scheduled between 11 May and 1 June inclusive are cancelled,
 - Cases closed and scheduled between 17 March and 1 June inclusive: processed under the procedure without hearing only, without prior adjournment,
 - Pleading files to be submitted in accordance with the terms of the order of the Paris Judicial Tribunal of 27 April 2020 (no. 59/2020),
 - Pre-trial: exclusively by RPVA,
 - Fixed-day summons: petitions must be submitted to the civil SAUJ and cannot be argued immediately except on the judge's request if further information is necessary,
 - Co-ownership charges section of the 8th chamber:
 - Hearings scheduled between 11 and 29 May 2020 included are cancelled,
 - Cases scheduled for hearings cancelled between 17 March and 29 May 2020 included, ready to be closed and placed under deliberation: procedure without hearing, without prior adjournment and after notice to the parties,
 - Pleading files to be submitted in accordance with the terms of the order of the Paris Judicial Tribunal of 27 April 2020 (no. 59/2020),
 - Pre-trial: exclusively by RPVA.

Insolvency proceedings:

- The cases that were to be examined at the Thursday morning and afternoon hearings were all subject to adjournment,
- Deliberations are adjourned,
- The SAUJ and the court's administration services are closed, requests cannot be processed,
- Remote handling of emergencies by the judges,
- Possibility to contact the president directly in case of absolute emergency,
- All other requests sent by post and email that are not considered an emergency will not be processed and will not be considered as a referral to the jurisdiction,
- **Resumption plan:**
 - Thursday morning and afternoon hearings will resume in person beginning 14 May 2020,
 - Tuesday morning bankruptcy judge hearings will resume in person beginning 19 May 2020 and in accordance with the terms of section 828 of the French Code of civil procedure for those petitions that permit it.

Family division:

- All hearings are cancelled and cases that should have been reviewed are adjourned,
- Deliberations are adjourned to a later date,

- Urgent requests (only in the matter of protection orders and expedited procedures on the merits for international child abductions) must be filed with the SAUJ accompanied by the contact details of the applicants or their counsel, and will be dealt with by the Family Affairs Office on Tuesday and Thursday,
- Apart from these emergencies, the permanence of family affairs no longer issues summonses,
- In case of difficulty, send an email to delegationgenerale@avocatparis.org,
- **Resumption plan:**
 - Written proceedings with mandatory representation:
 - Hearings scheduled between 11 May and 1 June 2020 are cancelled,
 - Cases closed and scheduled for hearings cancelled between 17 March 2020 and 1 June 2020 included: procedure without hearing, without prior adjournment,
 - Pleading files to be submitted in accordance with the terms of the order of the Paris Judicial Tribunal of 27 April 2020 (no. 59/2020),
 - Pre-trial: exclusively by RPVA.
 - Oral proceedings in chambers without mandatory representation before the family judge ruling on parental authority disputes: likewise.
 - Emergency permanence:
 - Permanence of the family division: Tuesday and Thursday morning,
 - Urgent family matters petitions (protection orders, summary proceedings and accelerated proceedings on the merits for international child abduction): filing at the SAUJ, and processing of cases by the emergency family affairs office on Tuesdays and Thursdays (01.44.32.51.37),
 - Other hearings or auditions scheduled between 11 May and 1 June 2020 included are cancelled.

Local civil division (*pôle civil de proximité*):

- All hearings are adjourned,
- Cases examinations and deliberations are adjourned,
- The Civil Order Office (Bureau d'Ordre Civil or BOC) no longer issues dates for summons,
- Requests filed with the SAUJ will no longer be processed, as the BOC administration service is no longer present in court and the magistrate manages emergencies remotely,
- A permanence is maintained, possibility of referring to the pole by email (referes-civil.ti-paris@justice.fr):
 - In the event of an absolute emergency (mainly funeral disputes), possibility to submit a petition for a short notice summary proceeding (*référé d'heure à heure*),
 - Possibility to submit a petition for a finding (*requête à fin de constatation*) under Article 145 of the French Code of civil procedure,
 - A petition for the repossession of abandoned housing as provided for in Article 14-1 of the Law of 6 July 1989,
 - A petition to suspend consumer credit and real estate credit as provided for in Article L.314-20 of the French Consumer Code,
- Non-urgent *in futurum* measures: the decisions rendered will only be enforceable as from the end of the health emergency period,

- The orders will be notified to the applicant by e-mail (Article 10 of Order No. 2020-304 of 25 March 2020),
- All other requests that do not correspond to one of the above hypotheses will not be considered as a referral to the jurisdiction (a response will be sent inviting the requester to reiterate his request by the usual means, namely by mail or deposit to the SAUJ when the activation period of the Business Continuity Plan (*Plan de Continuité d'Activité or PCA*) will be over),
- In order not to cause the expiry period to run, the necessary will be done so that the cause of the adjournment and the absence of due diligence expected from the parties are mentioned on the files,
- **Resumption plan from 11 May 2020:**
 - The following hearings will be held:
 - Summary proceedings hearings under general law (excluding acquisition of termination clause), from 11 May,
 - Professional election disputes hearings, from 11 May,
 - Civil hearings on referral, from 13 May,
 - Certain over-indebtedness hearings, from 18 May,
 - The other hearings will be adjourned:
 - Termination clause acquisition hearings: adjournment from September 2020,
 - Hearings on new civil cases on the merits: adjournment from October 2020,
 - Civil hearings on the merits: adjournment from September 2020,
 - For the upcoming hearings:
 - The parties will be able to benefit from the provisions of article 446-1, paragraph 2, of the Code of Civil Procedure (authorization to formulate claims and arguments in writing without attending the hearing), provided that the lawyers file their submissions, pleading files and filing form (available on the court's website) to the SAUJ at least 48 hours before the hearing, from 11 May,
 - The parties can request a review of the case without hearing:
 - All parties must request this and formulate their claims in writing,
 - The parties must file the filing form (available on the court's website), their writings and their pleading file at the SAUJ permanence,
 - The filing of the request and the pleading file of all parties must be simultaneous; an isolated filing by one party will not be accepted,
 - The permanence for requests is maintained:
 - Submission of requests by post to the SAUJ or by email to referes-civil.ti-paris@justice.fr,
 - Requests for short notice summary proceedings will be handled in the same way,
 - Resumption of date delivery at the BOC:
 - As of 18 May, the BOC will resume issuing dates for acquisitions of termination clauses, new cases and summary proceedings hearings,
 - To obtain a date: fill in the application form (available on the court's website) and send it by e-mail to civil.ti-paris@justice.fr,
 - Resumption of the order of payment division as of 27 April,
 - Adult protection division:

- Notices of hearing issued from 11 May,
- Priority will be given to the procedure without hearing,
- Requests should be sent preferably by post,
- Consultation of case files is available upon prior appointment to be made by e-mail at accueil.tutelles.ti-paris@justice.fr,
- Telephone permanence maintained from 9am to 12am: 01.87.27.95.00,
- For auditions and hearings scheduled between 16 March and 10 May: a new convocation will be sent out indicating the chosen modalities (face-to-face or videoconference, telephone, written exchanges),
- Contacts in case of difficulty:
 - For civil hearings: referes-civil.ti-paris@justice.fr,
 - For the adult protection division: accueil.tutelles.ti-paris@justice.fr,
- Forms and further information:
 - <https://www.tribunal-de-paris.justice.fr/sites/default/files/2020-05/Reprise%20p%C3%B4le%20civil%20de%20proximit%C3%A9%20TJ%20Paris%2005052020.pdf>

Criminal division:

- The permanences related to liberty litigation are maintained: immediate trials, preliminary examination, sentence enforcement judge, liberty and detention judge: criminal, foreigners, hospitalization without consent, minors when there is a risk of detention,
 - Permanences for police custody: by telephone,
 - Hospitalization without consent in front of the liberty and detention judge: without lawyers being present, electronic submission of pleadings,
 - Sentence enforcement judge's permanence: hearings by videoconference, with the on-duty lawyer being able to consult the files the day before and travel to plead the case,
 - Permanence of the liberty and detention judge for foreigners: reduced number of cases, possibility for on-duty lawyers to talk to foreigners detained by videoconference, lawyer is present,
 - Permanence of the juvenile section: compliance with safety distances, possibility of interviewing the educators in a box fitted with Plexiglas, possibility of providing a mask for each on-duty lawyer, presentation of the juvenile before the judge in the courtroom and not in the chamber,
- Release applications and urgent requests related to detention: contact the SAUJ, office 16,
- Opening hours of the SAUJ: 9am-11am / 1pm-4pm,
- Opening hours of the appeal service: 10am-12pm / 1pm-4pm,
- All hearings are adjourned except for those of the 16th and 23rd Correctional Chambers, including judicial supervision hearings,
- Sentence Enforcement Service: requests can be sent by e-mail (jap.tgi-paris@justice.fr),
- Correctional hearings:
 - Proceedings involving pre-trial detention and judicial supervision are maintained, in particular for the most serious cases of violence,

- The civil and criminal SAJJ continue to operate, with a limited staff, and will process all proceedings, requests for deeds and other requests usually made within the high-rise building (IGH),
- **Resumption plan:**
 - Hearings resumed according to the schedule set out in the rollover order of 3 January 2020:
 - Hearings of the 10th, 14th, 16th and 33rd chambers,
 - 28th Chamber: hearing at which the cases of domestic and intra-family violence of the other single-judge compositions fixed for the morning will be grouped together,
 - "Special" hearings of the 11th Chamber,
 - 17th Correctional Chamber (Press and Internet Chamber) :
 - Civil hearings:
 - ✓ Closed cases on the merits and pre-trial incidents scheduled for a pleading hearing cancelled between 16 March and 10 May 2020: procedure without hearing,
 - ✓ Closed cases on the merits and pre-trial incidents scheduled for a pleading hearing cancelled between 11 May and 1 June 2020: procedure without hearing,
 - ✓ Files to be submitted by lawyers within 15 days of the Paris Judicial Tribunal's order of 7 May 2020,
 - ✓ Pre-trial: exclusively by RPVA,
 - Criminal hearings: the hearings scheduled by the rollover order of 3 January 2020 are cancelled from 11 May to 1 June 2020,
 - Petitions for fixed-day summons: see the section on civil chambers,
 - Specialized summary proceedings: see the section related to the civil emergency and specialized summary proceedings division.

Arrangements for criminal defence:

- Remote access to documents to avoid unnecessary travel,
- Dedicated e-mail address for the communication of exhibits and submissions,
- On-duty staff with their own equipment,
- Organization of on-duty hours in 14-day shifts,
- Marking on the ground to respect safety distances,
- Health protection during interviews and movements, especially of detainees and equipment,
- Interviews in larger rooms to ensure confidentiality.

Police Court resumption plan: the hearings scheduled by the rotation order of 3 January 2020 are cancelled from 11 May to 1 June 2020.

Criminal emergency division resumption plan:

- Hearings of the 23rd Correctional Chamber: maintained at the same frequency,
- Hearings of the 24th Correctional Chamber:

- Cancellation, from 11 May to 1 June 2020 included, of the hearings of the 1st and 2nd sections, as fixed in the order of 3 January 2020,
- Continuation of Section 2B guilty plea hearings.

Assize division resumption plan: see the order of 3 January 2020.

Liberty and detention judge resumption plan: see order of 3 January 2020.

Investigation division resumption plan: progressive resumption from 11 May to 1 June 2020, in rotation, according to the duty schedule.

Sentence enforcement resumption plan:

- See Order of 3 January 2020,
- Progressive resumption of activity, from 11 May to 1 June 2020, by rotation of cabinets,
- First open adversarial debate hearing: every Tuesday from 26 May 2020 and Fridays.

Juvenile court resumption plan:

- Collegial hearings of the 25th Chamber on 11, 19 and 26 May 2020 are maintained,
- All other collegiate hearings are cancelled,
- Juvenile judge:
 - Criminal hearings in counsel's chambers on a rotating basis,
 - Scheduled criminal hearings in chambers are maintained,
 - Progressive resumption of educational assistance cases, on a rotating basis,
 - Hearing of urgent criminal cases (investigation, judgment, sentence enforcement litigation),
 - Juvenile sentence enforcement litigation: daily hearings.

Resumption plan for the civil chambers with mandatory representation and written proceedings, for the family division (divorce, liquidation of undivided states, status of persons), and for the labour tie-breaking hearings:

- Cases on the merits set for a pleading hearing between 16 March and 10 May 2020, and pre-trial incidents set for a pleading hearing during the same period, will be processed without the referral provided for in Article 4 of Order 2020-304, in accordance with the proceedings without hearing provided for in Article 8,
- Cases on the merits set for a pleading hearing between 11 May and 24 June 2020, and pre-trial incidents set for a pleading hearing during the same period, will also be processed in accordance with the proceedings without hearing provided for in Article 8,
- Lawyers involved have 15 days from 27 April 2020 to oppose the proceedings without hearing.

Employment division resumption plan:

- Partial resumption from 11 May,

- Only the scheduled non-medical litigation hearings in Sections 1, 3 and 5 are maintained from 11 May 2020,
- Summary proceedings relating to social security litigation and admission to social assistance continue to be processed,
- Hearings scheduled from 16 March 2020 to 10 May 2020 included and relating to medical, non-medical social security and social assistance admission litigation are cancelled and adjourned as of September 2020,
- Petitions submitted or addressed to the court's administration services service before 16 March and from 11 May 2020, relating to medical, non-medical social security and social assistance admission litigation: hearings from September 2020,
- Hearing deliberations from March to May: to be sent by registered mail no later than the first half of July 2020,
- Requests for adjournment: to be sent by post or deposited to the SAUJ,
- Contacts: by e-mail at pole-social.tgi-paris@justice.fr or by telephone at 01.44.32.85.65, 01.44.32.70.92, 01.87.27.94.38, or 01.87.27.94.36.

Commercial rent judge's resumption plan:

- Hearings scheduled between 11 May and 1 June included are cancelled,
- Cases scheduled for hearings cancelled between 17 March and 29 May 2020, ready to be placed under deliberation: procedure without hearing, without prior adjournment and after notice to the parties.

Personal injury compensation resumption plan:

- 19th Chamber: see section on civil chambers for medical liability, traffic accidents and victims of terrorist attacks,
- Victims of offences: hearings from 11 May to 1 June 2020 included are cancelled.

Other: Continuation of the Antenna for Educational Assistance (by email).

Pontoise Judicial Tribunal (*Tribunal judiciaire de Pontoise*)¹⁵

- All hearings are automatically adjourned, except for those related to pre-trial detention,
- Requests for release are to be addressed via:
 - Registered letter with acknowledgement of receipt,
 - Deposit to the court's administration services,
 - Sending to the secretary of the Bar (cdee@avocat-95.fr).

¹⁵ *Vademecum of the Paris Bar Association, updated 7 April 2020*

Sens Judicial Tribunal (*Tribunal judiciaire de Sens*)¹⁶

- The court is closed, all hearings are adjourned, and no case is processed until further notice even in case of emergency.

Versailles Judicial Tribunal (*Tribunal judiciaire de Versailles*)¹⁷

- The court is closed to the public, but court staff and court officers are present to ensure that court sessions and hearings are maintained,
- Possibility to contact the court by e-mail (tj1-versailles@justice.fr),

In correctional matters:

- Activity is limited to immediate trial hearings and cases involving detained or judicially supervised persons,
- The other cases as well as those of the police court are adjourned to a later date not yet fixed.

In civil and commercial matters:

- All hearings are adjourned,
- Only emergency cases will be examined,
- Summary proceedings: hearings are being held; hearings of 5 and 7 May are no longer reserved for fixed-hour summary proceedings only,
- Only cases filed without pleadings will be accepted,
- Requests for adjournment can be made through the RPVA.

Local courts within the Yvelines department are also closed and a telephone hotline is provided.

3.2. Commercial Courts contingency plans

NB: Referral to all 134 French Commercial courts are possible on www.tribunaldigital.fr and formalities can be done on www.infogreffe.fr.

Bobigny Commercial Court (*Tribunal de commerce de Bobigny*)¹⁸

58-day adjournment for non-urgent cases.

¹⁶ Switchboard of the court administration's services

¹⁷ Website of the judicial tribunal of Versailles

¹⁸ Order of the Bobigny Commercial Court of 16 March 2020

Preventive proceedings:

- Processed by the request service of the court presidency,
- Interviews conducted by the judges, who will contact companies directly after accessing the digital file on the judges' portal,
- Contact : prevention@greffe-tc-bobigny.fr and audience@greffe-tc-bobigny.fr.

Insolvency proceedings:

- Sorting by each Chamber President or by a judge from the Chamber:
 - Non-urgent cases: 58-day adjournment from date to date, based on the judicial calendar hearings,
 - Urgent cases: to be enrolled for an exceptional hearing (in particular in the presence of employees),
- Exceptional hearings:
 - The relevant files must be communicated at the latest one week before the hearing to the court's administration services and the president of the tribunal, with a reminder to the judicial receiver and creditor representative as well as to the bankruptcy judges involved,
 - Schedule of exceptional hearings: March 23, March 31, April 21, April 24,
- Hearings of the bankruptcy judge: adjourned 58 days.

Litigation:

- 58-day adjournment for pre-trial hearings,
- Judge in charge of processing the case (*JCIA*): adjournment,
- Petition to be send by mail.

Summary proceedings:

- 58-day adjournment of all hearings,
- Possibility of resorting to the short notice summary proceedings (*référé d'heure à heure*) in cases of emergency, through the Presidency's services,
- Telephone hearings.

Créteil Commercial Court (*Tribunal de commerce de Créteil*)¹⁹

- Everything is suspended without exception, even emergency proceedings.

¹⁹Switchboard of the court's administration services
Vademecum of the Paris Bar Association of 26 March 2020

- The court's administration service is completely closed.
- Contact by email for any question relating to litigation (audience@greffe-tc-creteil.fr).

Insolvency proceedings: no possible summons or declaration of insolvency, and the examination of petitions is postponed.

Preventive proceedings: possible dematerialized *mandat ad hoc* will remain open in case of critical need.

Meaux Commercial Court (*Tribunal de commerce de Meaux*)²⁰

- The physical files can be deposited in the mailbox of the court's administration services or in the box provided for this purpose,
- The court's administration services can be contacted by email (gtcmeaux@free.fr),
- The dematerialized services of the court's administration services (Kbis, copies, formalities) are available on www.infogreffe.fr,
- Referral to the court is available online at www.tribunaldigital.fr,
- A permanence is maintained for the prevention and treatment of companies difficulties by email (gtcmeaux@free.fr), and you can be received if necessary, in case of emergency.

Melun Commercial Court (*Tribunal de commerce de Melun*)²¹

- Possible referral to the court on www.tribunaldigital.fr,
- No hearings are held,

Insolvency proceedings: possible opening of receivership proceedings and judicial liquidation upon declaration of insolvency, in case of emergency (i.e. in the presence of employees),

Prevention and preventive proceedings:

- Possible telephone appointment with the president,
- In principle, the opening of preventive proceedings in the event of an emergency remains possible,
- Submission of files by email with payment by bank transfer, or by post.

²⁰ Website of the court's administration services

²¹ Court's administration services switchboard

Nanterre Commercial Court (*Tribunal de commerce de Nanterre*)²²

Litigation:

- March 16-20 hearings adjourned to 8 weeks and subsequent hearings adjourned to 6 weeks,
- Deliberations that should have been rendered since 12 March and have been postponed will all be rendered during the week of 27 April,
- Reporting judge (*juge-rapporteur*) hearings: the judge chooses between a videoconference, a physical hearing or a procedure without hearing.

Summary proceedings:

- Hearings are held every Thursdays, during which the judge assesses whether or not the physical hearing should be maintained,
- Resumption plan: summary proceedings hearings have already been scheduled for 12 and 14 May.

Hearings of the JCIA (judge in charge of processing the case): 6-week adjournment.

Petition for a payment order (*requête en injonction de payer*): a court clerk processes the files at home and goes to the court once a week for a judge to process them.

Preventive proceedings:

- Send a complete file by e-mail (audiences@greffe-tc-nanterre.fr) to make an appointment for a conference call with the president,
- *Mandat ad hoc*: videoconferences are organized on D+1,
- Conciliation proceedings: videoconferences are organized on D+3,
- Orders are rendered 24 hours after the videoconference.

Insolvency proceedings:

- Cases reviewed every Wednesday:
 - Safeguard proceedings, judicial liquidations with employees, receivership plans and continuation plans ("important" cases): examination in council chambers on Wednesday morning, judgements are rendered immediately,
 - Judicial liquidations without employees ("less important" cases): review on Wednesday afternoon in a single-judge hearing, judgments are rendered 2 or 3 days later,

²² Website of court's administration services
 Circular of the Court of 16 March 2020
 Communication n°29 of the Paris Bar Association
 Court's communication - Measures adopted on 20 March 2020

- Bankruptcy judge hearings: the judge chooses between a videoconference, a physical hearing or a procedure without hearing,
- Possibility to request a telephone appointment by e-mail: prevention@greffe-tcnanterre.fr.

Other petitions: complete file to be sent by email (requetes@greffe-tc-nanterre.fr).

Processing of the most urgent cases by videoconference:

- Opening of *mandat ad hoc* proceedings (preferably) or conciliation proceedings (if *mandat ad hoc* proceedings are impossible),
- Opening of safeguard proceedings, receivership proceedings or judicial liquidation of companies that can no longer pay their staff (for support by the AGS – French redundancy fund),
- Adoption of disposal plan (to avoid a risk of withdrawal of buyers),
- Homologation of a conciliation agreement,
- Referral based on urgency, the urgency having to be validated beforehand by the filing of a request for a short notice summary proceeding (*référé d'heure à heure*).

Court's administration services:

- Closing of the physical reception of the administration services, contact by email (contact@greffe-tc-nanterre.fr).
- Referral to the court possible on www.tribunaldigital.fr (summons, declaration of insolvency).

Other referrals:

- Requests for the opening of safeguard proceedings, receivership proceedings or judicial liquidation upon declaration of insolvency, summons, petitions to the president: by RPVA or www.tribunaldigital.fr,
- Cases already enrolled: they are generally already adjourned (date of adjournment available on infogreffe),
- Upcoming summons: cases meeting the urgency criteria will be subject to a videoconference hearing, the others will be placed or adjourned at a distant date.

Prevention helpline, upon appointment booked by email (prevention@greffe-tc-nanterre.fr).

Paris Commercial Court (*Tribunal de commerce de Paris*)²³

- All hearings on the merits are cancelled up to and including 17 April.

²³ Court's administration services switchboard,
Communication n°28 of the Paris Bar Association,
Vademecum of the Paris Bar Association of 26 March 2020
Court communication of 26 March 2020

- Certain formalities can be carried out from the court's administration service in Paris (declaration of insolvency, filing of annual accounts) and on www.tribunaldigital.fr (summons, petitions, safeguard proceedings).

Litigation:

- All hearings are adjourned (procedural hearings, JCIA hearings, collegial pleadings, summary proceedings including in cabinet) subject to the urgency,
- Adjournment dates will be communicated after the end of containment,
- Only urgent cases are likely to be examined: requests should be sent to Mr. MANTOUX, Judge delegated to petitions (refere@greffe-tc-paris.fr).

Preventive proceedings:

- Permanence of judges who are entitled to open conciliation proceedings and *mandat ad hoc* proceedings,
- Submission of the file by email (prevention@greffe-tc-paris.fr),
- Once the file has been sent, the relevant judge calls the lawyer for an initial contact,
- The meeting will be held by videoconference so that both the lawyer and the manager can be connected,
- Telephone hearings are held on Tuesdays and Thursdays (except emergencies),
- Mission extensions, scope extensions, prorogations, mission terminations, etc. are also processed digitally,
- Adjustments following the Order of March 27th:
 - The applicant may be in state of insolvency on the day of the opening of the amicable proceedings, but not more than 45 days before the date of 12 March,
 - The deadlines for ongoing conciliation proceedings are automatically extended at the end of the state of health emergency (in principle 24 May) plus 3 months,
 - Conciliation proceedings opened during the state of health emergency are extended - according to the most frequent interpretation - for 5 months plus 3 months,
 - It is possible to open a new conciliation proceeding without complying with the 3-month waiting time currently provided for in Article L. 611-6 of the French Commercial Code,
- The court's administration service will be completely closed,
- Contact Dominique-Paul VALLEE, General Delegate of the President for Prevention, for any further information.

Insolvency proceedings:

- The court holds its hearings in chambers by videoconference, with 3 judges, the public prosecutor and a court clerk, using a secure process, in order to deal with:
 - Petitions to open safeguard proceedings, receivership proceedings or judicial liquidation,
 - Petitions for conversion from receivership proceedings to judicial liquidation,
 - Examination of a receivership plan or disposal plan,

- Cases were enrolled with priority given to cases involving employees,
- Next hearings: April 8, 9 and 15, 2020,
- In case of emergency, bankruptcy judges can organize, by videoconference, a hearing for the sale of business assets by invitation to tender (opening of bids), in the presence of the creditor representative, a bailiff, the manager, the lessor and the bidders,
- Referrals should only be made via www.tribunaldigital.fr for:
 - Petitions to open a safeguard proceeding,
 - Declarations of insolvency with a petition to open a receivership proceeding or a judicial liquidation,
 - Petitions to the President or the bankruptcy judge,
- For any further information, contact Patrick COUPEAUD, General Delegate of the President in charge of dealing with companies' difficulties.

Summary proceedings:

- A hearing may be held in the event of an emergency: appointment to be made by email (webmaster@greffe-tc-paris.fr),
- This only applies to the authorizations to summon short notice (*autorisations d'assigner d'heure à heure*).

Deliberations:

- Expected to be available by April 17, 2020 for all judgments or orders with an earlier expected date.

Pontoise Commercial Court (*Tribunal de commerce de Pontoise*)²⁴

Processing of the most urgent cases:

- Opening of *mandat ad hoc* or conciliation proceedings,
- Opening of receivership proceedings or judicial liquidation (to be covered by the AGS – French redundancy fund)
- Summons in summary proceedings based on urgency,
- Adoption of disposal plans (in case of substantial impact on employment),
- Homologation of conciliation agreements.

Referral to the court:

- Petition to open a *mandat ad hoc* or conciliation proceeding: complete file to be sent to prevention@greffe-tc-pontoise.fr,

²⁴ Document transmitted by the court

- Other referrals (petitions to open a safeguard proceeding, petitions to open a receivership proceeding or judicial liquidation upon declaration of insolvency, short notice summary proceedings (“référés d’heure à heure”): via the RPVA, pcl@greffe-tc-pontoise.fr or on www.tribunaldigital.fr.

Other services provided by the court:

- Request for a telephone interview to be confidentially informed about possible solutions to deal with the company's financial difficulties: send an e-mail to prevention@greffe-tc-pontoise.fr indicating: your identity, telephone number, name and RCS (trade register) number of the company, the date(s) you would like to be called back by a judge,
- RCS activity: only on www.infogreffe.fr,
- Any request sent by post (request for documents, registration of pledges and liens, formalities in paper format) is unpredictable, as the Post Office has reduced its services.

Sens Commercial Court (*Tribunal de commerce de Sens*)²⁵

- Possible referral on www.tribunaldigital.fr,
- Cancellation of all hearings,
- Preventive and insolvency proceedings:
 - Possibility to send the declaration of insolvency file by mail, the file will be saved but there will be no opening of proceedings or appointment,
 - A priori, there will be no hearings to rule on the plans either, even in the presence of employees.

Versailles Commercial Court (*Tribunal de commerce de Versailles*)²⁶

- Hearings on the merits, summary hearings, insolvency proceedings hearings, bankruptcy judge hearings: all hearings from 17 March to 15 April are adjourned.
- Hearings revised schedule as of 16 March:
<http://www.greffe-tc-versailles.fr/actualites/locale/audiences-/1/12.html>

From 30 Mars 2020 on:

- In all cases pending before the court, the hearing may be held by one of the members of the trial panel; this judge shall report back to the court in his deliberations,
- All hearings may be held by means of videoconference or telephone telecommunication, to be determined by ordinance,
- Processes to ensure the identity of the parties and to guarantee the quality of transmission and the confidentiality of exchanges will also be determined by ordinance,

²⁵ Court's administration services switchboard

²⁶ Website of the court's administration services

- Thursday, April 9 and 16, 2020: hearings for the opening of preventive and insolvency proceedings upon referral by the debtor.

3.3. Labor Courts contingency plans

Argenteuil Labor Court (*Conseil des Prud'hommes d'Argenteuil*)²⁷

Summary proceedings and tie-breaking:

- No recovery arrangements announced,
- All hearings are adjourned sine die.

Bobigny Labor Court (*Conseil des Prud'hommes de Bobigny*)²⁸

- Closure of the court and adjournment of all hearings, including tie-breaking hearings and summary proceedings hearings, until further notice,
- The president of the court will notify by any means of the date of adjournment and, if applicable, the date of availability of the judgment, at the reopening of the court,
- Adjournment is automatic, attendance is not required.

Resumption plan:

- Summary proceedings: hearings will resume on 24 April 2020,
- Tie-breaking:
 - No resumption before 18 May 2020,
 - The tie-breaking judges will set the rules for their hearings themselves,
- All hearings take place in council chambers.

Boulogne-Billancourt Labor Court (*Conseil des Prud'hommes de Boulogne-Billancourt*)²⁹

- No hearings, all cases are adjourned,
- In case of emergency, possibility to send a summary proceedings request by email, and it will be submitted to the president.

Resumption plan:

- Summary proceedings: Hearings are scheduled to resume on 11 May 2020,
- Tie-breaking: Total resumption of sections, including summary proceedings, by 11 May 2020.

²⁷ Flash Info from the Paris Bar Association of 27 April 2020

²⁸ Vademecum of the Paris Bar Association, updated 15 April 2020

²⁹ Vademecum of the Paris Bar Association, updated 15 April 2020

Flash Info from the Paris Bar Association of 27 April 2020

Créteil Labor Court (*Conseil des Prud'hommes de Créteil*)³⁰

Summary proceedings :

- The resumption of summary proceedings hearings is scheduled for Monday, 27 April 2020, with a hearing to be held at the Créteil Judicial Tribunal,
- Cases enrolled were selected from the cases cancelled as a result of containment, prioritized according to the representation of the parties,
- The hearing of Monday, 4 May will not be held due to lack of cases ready to be tried,
- The summary proceedings hearings scheduled for 11 May, for which a notice has already been given, are maintained,

Tie-breaking: Full resumption, including summary proceedings, by 11 May 2020.

Evry Labor Court (*Conseil des Prud'hommes d'Evry*)³¹

Summary proceedings: The resumption is set for Monday, 27 April 2020.

Tie-breaking:

- All hearings are adjourned sine die,
- No recovery arrangements announced.

Fontainebleau Labor Court (*Conseil des Prud'hommes de Fontainebleau*)³²

Summary proceedings and tie-breaking:

- All hearings are adjourned sine die,
- No recovery arrangements announced.

Longjumeau Labor Court (*Conseil des Prud'hommes de Longjumeau*)³³

Summary proceedings and tie-breaking:

- All hearings are adjourned sine die,
- No recovery arrangements announced.

³⁰ Flash Info from the Paris Bar Association of 27 April 2020

³¹ Flash Info from the Paris Bar Association of 27 April 2020

³² Flash Info from the Paris Bar Association of 27 April 2020

³³ Flash Info from the Paris Bar Association of 27 April 2020

Mantes la Jolie Labor Court (*Conseil des Prud'hommes de Mantés la Jolie*)³⁴

Summary proceedings and tie-breaking:

- All hearings are adjourned sine die,
- No recovery arrangements announced,
- For new and urgent claims, a pre-sorting will be carried out by the President of the Court, who will set a possible hearing date,
- Contact : cph-mantes-la-jolie@justice.fr.

Meaux Labor Court (*Conseil des Prud'hommes de Meaux*)³⁵

Summary proceedings and tie-breaking:

- All hearings are adjourned sine die,
- No recovery arrangements announced.

Melun Labor Court (*Conseil des Prud'hommes de Melun*)³⁶

Summary proceedings and tie-breaking:

- All hearings are adjourned sine die,
- No recovery arrangements announced.

Montmorency Labor Court (*Conseil des Prud'hommes de Montmorency*)³⁷

Summary proceedings and tie-breaking:

- All hearings are adjourned sine die,
- No recovery arrangements announced.

Nanterre Labor Court (*Conseil des Prud'hommes de Nanterre*)³⁸

Summary proceedings:

³⁴ Flash Info from the Paris Bar Association of 27 April 2020

³⁵ Flash Info from the Paris Bar Association of 27 April 2020

³⁶ Flash Info from the Paris Bar Association of 27 April 2020

³⁷ Flash Info from the Paris Bar Association of 27 April 2020

³⁸ Flash Info from the Paris Bar Association of 27 April 2020

- A contingency plan has been implemented for summary proceedings, operational as of 15 April 2020,
- A pre-sorting is carried out by the President and the Vice-President of the Court to assess the urgency,
- The parties will then be convened, however the proceedings will take place, upon agreement of the parties, without hearing,

Contact: in case of emergency, requests are received on the structural box refere.cph-nanterre@justice.fr.

Paris Labor Court (*Conseil des prud'homme de Paris*)³⁹

- Hearings are cancelled until further notice,
- It is possible to communicate with the Council by email (cph-paris@justice.fr),
- Telephone reception is only available from 9 a.m. to 12 p.m. and from 1 p.m. to 4 p.m.,
- Requests can still be sent by post.
- Unless there are special circumstances related to COVID 19 (illness, inability to contact the client, inability to access the file, etc.) the set communication deadlines must be respected,
- In case of difficulty, possibility to contact the ZEN PRUDHOMMES permanence by e-mail: zencph@avocatparis.org,
- Article 4 of Order No. 2020-304 of 25 March 2020: hearings before the Labor Court ruling in the case of a tie-breaking decision scheduled between 16 March 2020 and, at the latest, the expiry of a period of one month from the date of cessation of the state of health emergency are cancelled and adjourned to a later date.

Resumption plan:

- Summary proceedings:
 - After a pre-sorting of the urgent cases that have been registered and processed by the President and the VP of the Court, the summary hearings resume on the following dates, upon agreement of the parties (fixed time summons): 27 April, 29 April, 4 May, 6 May,
 - Failing agreement, cases will be adjourned to the 1st effective dates in May after deconfinement,
 - Normal resumption on 13 May,
- Tie-breaking:
 - Resumption of BCO and BJ on May 18,
 - For tie-breaking hearings, the tie-breaking judges will set the rules for their hearings themselves,

³⁹ Paris Bar Vademecum of March 26, 2020
Flash Info from the Paris Bar Association of 27 April 2020

- Cases will be heard in closed hearings, one by one, with safety distances, and the judges and clerks will have masks and gloves + hydroalcoholic gel at their disposal.

Poissy Labor Court (*Conseil des Prud'hommes de Poissy*)⁴⁰

Summary proceedings and tie-breaking:

- All hearings are adjourned sine die,
- No recovery arrangements announced,
- In case of emergency, contact only by email.

Pontoise Labor Court (*Conseil des Prud'hommes de Pontoise*)⁴¹

Summary proceedings and tie-breaking:

- All hearings are adjourned sine die,
- No recovery arrangements announced.

Rambouillet Labor Court (*Conseil des Prud'hommes de Rambouillet*)⁴²

Summary proceedings:

- Registration of petitions, but the sending of summons will be done later,
- Adjournment of all hearings until the end of April 2020,
- Hearing of new referrals in summary proceedings shall be submitted in advance to the President,

Contact:

- By telephone: 01 61 08 65 00,
- By email: Cphrambouillet@justice.fr.

Saint-Germain-en-Laye Labor Court (*Conseil des Prud'hommes de Saint-Germain-en-Laye*)⁴³

Summary proceedings and tie-breaking:

- No recovery arrangements announced,
- Announcement of a resumption of hearings after the end of containment.

⁴⁰ Flash Info from the Paris Bar Association of 27 April 2020

⁴¹ Flash Info from the Paris Bar Association of 27 April 2020

⁴² Flash Info from the Paris Bar Association of 27 April 2020

⁴³ Flash Info from the Paris Bar Association of 27 April 2020

Versailles Labor Court (*Conseil des Prud'hommes de Versailles*)⁴⁴

Summary proceedings and tie-breaking:

- Cancellation of all hearings until the end of April 2020,
- Receipt of requests by post or by deposit at the box,
- The court's administration services register the new claims but does not send out the summons that will be sent out after the end of the confinement,

Contact: cph-versailles@justice.fr.

Villeneuve-Saint-Georges Labor Court (*Conseil des Prud'hommes de Villeneuve-Saint-Georges*)⁴⁵

Summary proceedings:

- The conciliation and orientation sessions that were scheduled for Tuesday, 5 May 2020 at 09:30 a.m., and the pre-trial conciliation and orientation sessions that were scheduled for Tuesday, 5 May 2020 at 09:00 a.m. are cancelled,
- A summary proceedings hearing has been scheduled for Monday, 11 May 2020 starting at 9:30 a.m. at the Jean Cocteau Foyer located 8 avenue Carnot in Villeneuve-Saint-Georges,

Tie-breaking:

- The hearing of the trial board scheduled for Thursday, 7 May 2020 at 1:30 p.m. is cancelled,
- Resumption of certain sessions and hearings from 11 May.

3.4. Courts of Appeal contingency plans

Paris Court of Appeal (*Cour d'appel de Paris*)⁴⁶

Civil cases:

Hearings of Chambers 2-11 et 2-12: maintained.

Commercial, social and civil emergencies: hearings on the first president's urgent summary proceedings and urgent petitions are held on Thursdays at 9.30 am.

Resumption plan for cases scheduled for oral argument hearings of the non-criminal chambers of poles 1 to 6 (not applicable to pre-trial incidents):

⁴⁴ Flash Info from the Paris Bar Association of 27 April 2020

⁴⁵ Flash Info from the Paris Bar Association of 27 April 2020

⁴⁶ Communications n°8, 17, 47 of the Paris Bar Association Vademecum of the Paris Bar Association of 26 March 2020 Amending rolling orders of 23 April and 7 May 2020

- Proceedings with mandatory representation:
 - the cases scheduled for oral argument hearings for the period between 16 March and 30 April 2020, between 4 and 10 May 2020, and between 11 May and 24 May 2020 will be processed under the procedure without hearing provided for in Article 8 of Order No. 2020-304, if they have not already been adjourned or put under deliberation,
- Proceedings without mandatory representation:
 - cases in which the parties are assisted or represented by a lawyer, for the period between 16 March and 30 April 2020, between 4 and 10 May 2020, and between 11 May and 24 May 2020 will also be dealt with under the procedure without hearing provided for in Article 8 of the aforementioned Order No. 2020-304 if they have not already been adjourned or put under deliberation,
 - Cases in which the parties are neither assisted nor represented by a lawyer, for the period between 16 March and 24 May 2020, will be adjourned to a hearing date of the relevant chambers from 28 September 2020,
- Lawyers involved in the abovementioned cases have 15 days from being informed of the use of the procedure without a hearing to consent to it via a form.

Resumption of hospitalization without consent permanences, voted by the *Conseil de l'Ordre* on April 21, 2020.

General resumption plan:

- Lifting of the contingency plan as from 11 May 2020,
- Hearings of chambers 2-11 and 2-12: no change,
- Emergencies in civil and commercial matters (excluding poles 3 and 6): weekly hearing on Thursdays at 9.30 a.m. (urgent petitions, urgent summary proceedings of the first president, urgent summary proceedings in particular of Chambers 5-8, 5-9 and 5-15),
- Emergencies of poles 3 and 6: weekly hearing on Thursdays at 9:30 a.m., which can be collegial if necessary,
- Cases scheduled for oral argument in the non-criminal chambers of poles 1 to 6 until 24 June 2020: procedure without hearing; the other cases are adjourned.

Criminal cases:

Investigating chamber:

- Two hearings per day starting March 17, 2020 (9 a.m. and 2 p.m.),
- One hearing per day starting March 23, 2020 (9 a.m. except Monday at 2 p.m.),
- Cases on the merits are adjourned; the investigating chamber only rules on detention litigation,
- Hearings on European arrest warrants and extradition remain unchanged.

Correctional Chambers:

- Hearings are joint: 1 hearing per day for organized crime and 1 hearing per day for general law,
- Only cases in which defendants are detained are processed,
- Cases in which defendants stand freely or are detained for other reasons will be adjourned to hearings of each of the relevant Chambers, or failing that, will be subject to a new summons as of 28 September 2020.

Juvenile Chambers:

- 1 hearing per week.

Assize Court:

- All trials are adjourned.

Sentence Enforcement Chamber:

- No change: hearings on Tuesdays and Thursdays.

Details:

- Public reception services, houses of justice and law (*maisons de justice et du droit*) and law centers (*points d'accès au droit*) will be closed, but will remain reachable by telephone,
- Any item to be deposited at the reception of the civil, social and penal administration services (pleadings files, documents of procedure etc.) must be deposited in the mailbox situated court of May, office O-K- 12,
- The memoirs intended for the instruction chamber can be addressed by fax to the usual number of the service,
- Service of apostils: documents to be urgently apostilled must be sent to the Court of Appeal with a stamped envelope made out to the applicant, characterizing the particular emergency; requests will be processed once a week and processing of non-urgent requests will be delayed.

Resumption plan:

- Investigating chambers:
 - Until 17 May 2020, hearings are grouped together at the rate of 7 hearings per week, excluding european arrest warrants and extraditions, with the possibility of adjournment of cases on the merits,
 - From 18 May 2020: 13 hearings per week,
- Sentence enforcement chamber (2-10): continuation of the normal roster-based hearing system,
- Emergencies of chamber 3-6: weekly hearing on Thursdays at 9.30 a.m,
- Correctional chambers until 24 May 2020:

- Hearings of chambers 8-1, 8-2 and 8-3: grouped together at a daily hearing at 1.30 p.m. in order to deal with cases in which defendants are detained,
- Other correctional chambers of poles 1 to 5: a single daily hearing to deal with cases in which defendants are detained; cases in which defendants stand free or are detained for other reasons are adjourned to hearings of the relevant chambers,
- Assize court: hearings scheduled up to 24 May 2020 are adjourned.

Detailed schedule and rooms for each hearing:

http://dl.avocatparis.org/com/mailling2020/CAParis_tableau_audiences.pdf

Versailles Court of Appeal (*Cour d'appel de Versailles*)⁴⁷

Civil cases:

- Week of March 16 to 20: referral of all cases,
- From March 23: 1 hearing per week on Wednesday at 2 p.m. to deal with urgent litigation - the rest of the cases will be adjourned,

Criminal cases:

Correctional Appeals Chamber:

- Single judge hearings: cases in which defendants stand freely will be adjourned from March 18 without the need to hold a hearing,
- Collegial hearings:
 - Only detention litigation and judgments on the merits framed by deadlines will be evoked,
 - The other cases will be adjourned,
- From March 18, a single judge panel will handle the cases each day.

Investigating chamber:

- Strict observance of the written procedure by lawyers: sending of the brief and exemption from attendance at the hearing,
- Only litigation relating to security measures (including criminal responsibility files) will be heard,
- Cases on the merits will be adjourned.

Yvelines Assize Court:

⁴⁷ Communications n°15 and 27 of the Paris Bar Association

- Cases are adjourned with the exception of emergencies.

Sentence enforcement chamber:

- Cases are adjourned with the exception of emergencies.

Administrative Court of Appeal of Paris (*Cour d'appel administrative de Paris*)⁴⁸

- Only urgent cases will be called for a hearing,
- All judging sessions are cancelled with the exception of certain summary proceedings,
- The physical presence of applicants is not mandatory and public access will be very limited,
- Requests from natural and legal persons under private law not represented by a lawyer must be filed via the website (<https://citoyens.telerecours.fr>) or by fax (01.58.28.90.22).

In addition, it should be noted that the Paris Chamber of Bailiffs will be closed until 1 April 2020 included. The e-mail address chambredepartementale@huissierdeparis.com will however remain daily consulted.

3.5. Other courts

Administrative jurisdictions⁴⁹

Link to the interactive map to find out the measures taken by the various administrative courts and courts of appeal:

<https://www.conseil-etat.fr/tribunaux-cours/la-carte-des-juridictions-administratives>.

Communication with the court:

- Documents, deeds, and notices to the parties may be communicated to them by any means: for parties not registered in Télérecours, an e-mail must be preferred, as an exception to the legal provisions requiring the sending of a registered letter.

Hearings:

- Possibility of holding hearings without audience or with a restricted audience,

⁴⁸ Communication n°10 of the Paris Bar Association
Vademecum of the Paris Bar Association of 26 March 2020
⁴⁹ Vademecum of the Paris Bar Association of 26 March 2020
Communication n°36 of the Paris Bar Association

- Possibility of holding hearings by audio-visual or telephone communication; the presence of the lawyer alongside the client is not required,
- The president of the panel may exempt the public rapporteur, upon his proposal, from presenting his conclusions at the hearing,
- Possibility of ruling without a hearing on all summary proceedings after informing the parties and setting a date for the closure of the investigation. This possibility is to be preferred when the claim can be rejected on one of the grounds provided for in Article L.522-3 of the French Code of administrative justice,
- Possibility, on appeal, to rule without hearing on petitions for stay of execution of a decision.

On the adaptation of time limits for appeal, time limits for the investigation, time limits for the judge to rule and other adaptative measures: see [summary table](#).

Paris Administrative Court (*Tribunal administratif de Paris*)⁵⁰

- Physical reception is suspended until further notice,
- All paper filings (requests, memoirs, additional documents, etc.) not sent by the post may be deposited in court via the mailbox located on the front of the building,
- Telephone reception remains open from 9:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. but may not be available depending on the evolution of the situation and future government measures,
- All non-urgent collegial hearings are adjourned,
- Resumption of permanence for foreigners in rooms that can allow the respect of sanitary instructions,
- Possibility of using Télérecours and email (greffe.ta-paris@juradm.fr).

Resumption plan:

- Progressive resumption of full activity from 11 May,
- Resumption of hearings for all disputes,
- From 13 May, the emergency division plans one hearing per day.

National Court of Asylum (*Cour Nationale du Droit d'Asile - CNDA*)⁵¹

- Court hearings have been suspended since 16 March and until further notice,
- The National Court of Asylum continues to appoint legal aid lawyers and to make available to lawyers the files that are under investigation on the Cndém@t platform.
- Lawyers may continue to send all correspondence to the CNDA.

⁵⁰ *Vademecum of the Paris Bar Association of 26 March 26, 2020*
 « *Fil info n°30 spécial Covid-19* » of the Paris Bar Association
 “Flash Info Reprise d’activité” – Paris Bar Association – 6 May 2020
⁵¹ *Communication n°23 and 35 of the Paris Bar Association*

- Only requests for referral are not processed given the current suspension of hearings.
- Extension of time limits:
 - When the time limit for appealing against the decision of the general director of the OFPRA (French Office for the Protection of Refugees and Stateless Persons) expires between 12 March 2020 and the expiry of a period of one month after the end of the state of emergency, it will start running again from the latter date for its initial duration of one month,
 - This also applies to the fifteen-day time limit for submitting an application for legal aid and to appeals against decisions by the legal aid office,
- The extension of the time-limit from 12 March 2020 shall not preclude the filing of an appeal or an application for legal aid from that date, as the Court continues to register the appeals it receives,
- All appeals and applications for legal aid submitted after 12 March 2020 and before the date of termination of the public health emergency are not subject to any time-limit condition and shall automatically be considered admissible under the time-limit condition.
- Appeals, submissions from the parties and applications for legal aid are processed by the Court using the usual methods of communication, but it is recommended to use the dematerialised methods of communication: Fax and CNDém@t,
- Course of the proceedings:
 - Where the Court has prescribed an investigative measure to the parties and has imposed a time-limit for replying to it expiring between 12 March 2020 and one month after the end of the state of public health emergency, this time-limit shall be automatically extended by two months after the end of that period. However, the judge may modify these measures if they were pronounced before 12 March 2020 (1° of Article 3 of Order No. 2020-306),
 - Investigation closures occurring between 12 March 2020 and one month after the end of the state of public health emergency are automatically adjourned for one month following the end of this period (Article 16 of Ordinance No. 2020-305),
- Decisions: The reading of the cases from the March 13 hearings as well as those scheduled for reading after that date are postponed until the Court resumes hearings and according to a schedule to be released at a later date.

Resumption plan:

- Restart on 11 May:
 - Priority hearing of pre-crisis adjournments: first the adjourned cases, then the single-judge hearings and then the collegial hearings,
 - Single-judge hearings: with a convening notice of 15 days, the restart is expected around 27 May,
 - Collegial hearings: likely to restart around 11 or 12 June,
 - The Court will continue to operate during the originally scheduled vacation period (3-14 August),
 - Orders: the time limits will theoretically start running again the day after the end of the confinement (i.e. a priori 11 May); a certain period of time will be granted before processing the orders,

- Resumption of videoconference mediation,
- Closed hearings: at the discretion of the presiding judge, with the reminder that any request made by a lawyer will automatically entail a closed hearing.

Cour de cassation⁵²

Civil chambers, commercial chamber and social chamber:

- The extension mechanism provided for in Article 2 of Order 2020-306 of 25 March 2020 applies to:
 - The time limit for lodging an appeal,
 - The 4-month time limit for the production of the reply
 - One month's extension to notify the party of the statement of case,
 - The two-month time-limit for filing the reply statement of case,
 - The two-year time-limit for the execution of the contested decision, set by the notification of the order for removal of the appeal from the list,
- In each of these hypotheses, the time limit starts to run again, but within the limit of two months, which could exclude any increase due to the distance,
- This provision does not apply to the time limits and measures laid down by the rules of criminal law and proceedings, nor to time limits relating to measures involving imprisonment (administrative detention of aliens and hospitalization without consent).

Criminal chamber:

- Article 4 of the ordinance n°2020-303: the deadlines are doubled without being lower than ten days:
 - The time limit for lodging an appeal, which is five days, is extended to ten days,
 - For press matters and the execution of a European mandate, the three-day period is therefore extended to ten days,
- Time limits remain unchanged: not including the day of notice for ordinary law, and including the day of notice for press matters
- In the silence of the texts, this provision does not apply retroactively to 12 March 2020, unlike what is provided for civil matters,
- For the interim period between 16 March 2020, when the courts closed, and the entry into force of Order No. 2020-203, it is permissible to invoke force majeure or an insurmountable circumstance resulting from the inability to access the court's administration services,
- The rules governing the exercise of appeals are more flexible, as are those concerning the submission of claims, statements of case or pleadings before the criminal courts,
- The appeal may be made by registered letter or by e-mail to the e-mail address provided for this purpose,

⁵² *Vademecum of the Paris Bar Association, updated 7 April 2020*

- The one-month time limit granted for the lawyer to be appointed shall be increased by one additional month.

4. Contingency plan for jurisdictions outside of Ile-de-France

4.1. Judicial Tribunals contingency plans

Judicial Tribunal of Agen (*Tribunal judiciaire d'Agen*)⁵³

- The physical reception is closed.
- Only urgent hearings or fixed or short notice summonses (*assignations à délai fixe ou à délai court*) will be maintained by decision of the president.
- The rest of the hearings will be adjourned without a specific date.
- It is possible to send requests by registered letter but these will not be processed.

Judicial Tribunal of Amien (*Tribunal judiciaire d'Amiens*)⁵⁴

- Some hearings are held by videoconference,
- Only very urgent hearings or urgent summary proceedings are maintained, on Wednesdays at 9.30 a.m. by physical hearing. The processing of cases is postponed to May and June,
- The physical reception area is closed and the filing of files and claims is to be done by mail or by deposit in the boxes reserved for lawyers inside the court.

Judicial tribunal of Angers (*Tribunal judiciaire d'Angers*)⁵⁵

- Closed. All hearings are adjourned except in cases of emergency.

Judicial Tribunal of Blois (*Tribunal judiciaire de Blois*)

All non-urgent hearings will be cancelled without adjournment dates and cases will be rescheduled.

⁵³ Switchboard of the court's administration services

⁵⁴ Switchboard of the court's administration services

⁵⁵ Switchboard of the court's administration services

The permanent presence of the Public Prosecutor's Office is maintained, as well as hearings related to litigation involving fundamental civil liberties and urgent criminal cases, as follows:

- Correctional hearings for pre-trial detention measures,
- Immediate trial hearings,
- Presentation before the examining judge and the liberty and detention, judge, as well as hearings of a civil nature before the latter such as hospitalisation under duress, detention of foreigners,
- Hearings of the sentence enforcement judge,
- Hearings and permanence of the juvenile court and the juvenile judge for the management of emergencies, including educational assistance,
- Summary proceedings to the judicial tribunal for emergency and urgent measures under the family judge (including buildings threatening ruin, eviction of the violent spouse),
- Funeral litigation.

The use of videoconferencing is preferred.

For cases subject to an imperative deadline or which are due to be adopted or renewed before the expiry of a deadline or which are about to expire, the situation will be examined exclusively in a paper or digital file, the decision having to expressly refer to the urgency and exceptional circumstances, and any evidence of the circumstances in question will be added to the file.

The SAUJ activity is reduced to directional intake for urgent cases.

Judicial Tribunal of Bordeaux (*Tribunal judiciaire de Bordeaux*)

In criminal matters:

- Urgent acts in criminal matters must be taken via the structural address of the Tribunal: tj-bordeau@justice.fr,
- This applies to declarations of appeal (noting the references of the decision and what is being appealed against: culpa/Criminality, civil, etc.), requests for release and requests for acts.
- Deliberations are adjourned.

Judicial tribunal of Bourg-en-Bresse (*Tribunal judiciaire de Bourg-en-Bresse*)⁵⁶

- The tribunal is currently closed.
- There are no hearings scheduled until the end of the containment.
- Summary proceedings:
 - The service that deals with the processing of petitions is also closed.

⁵⁶ Switchboard of the court's administration services

- Only emergency proceedings such as short notice summary proceedings are processed, upon decision of the president of the court
- Files can be sent by registered letter but will not be processed.

Judicial tribunal of Bourges (*Tribunal judiciaire de Bourges*)⁵⁷

- Only essential litigation and emergencies are processed,
- Insolvency and preventive proceedings are not considered as essential / urgent litigation,
- Civil enforcement proceedings are also not considered urgent or essential.
- Summary proceedings :
 - Can be processed provided that it is urgent, to be assessed on a case-by-case basis.
 - Short notice summary proceedings are maintained and will be granted on a case-by-case basis where appropriate.
 - Requests must be sent by e-mail (accueil-bourges@justice.fr).

Judicial Tribunal of Caen (*Tribunal judiciaire de Caen*)⁵⁸

- Adjournment of all hearings (except in criminal cases for immediate trials and the juvenile court).
- Only emergencies assessed on a case-by-case basis will be processed.
- Requests can be sent by email (accueil-caen@justice.fr).

Judicial Tribunal of Castres (*Tribunal judiciaire de Castres*)⁵⁹

Closing of physical reception:

- The reception of the court is closed but the filing of certain acts in criminal matters and appeals in civil matters can be organised by telephone.
- A specific posting will invite litigants wishing to appeal against a criminal judgment to contact the security agent, who will contact the correctional administration services.

Some services are maintained for criminal and civil emergencies:

- Correctional hearings for pre-trial detention and judicial supervision,
- Immediate trial hearings,
- Presentations before the examining judge and the liberty and detention judge,

⁵⁷ Switchboard of the court's administration services

⁵⁸ Switchboard of the court's administration services

⁵⁹ Judicial Tribunal of Castres - Implementation of the business continuity plan due to the containment measures related to the pandemic.

- Sentence enforcement judge hearings in case of emergency,
- Hearings of the juvenile court and the juvenile judge in case of emergency, including educational assistance,
- Permanence of the prosecutor's office,
- Summary proceedings based on emergency before the judicial tribunal (including buildings threatening ruin) and urgent measures under the jurisdiction of the family court judge (violent spouse eviction),
- Hearings before the liberty and detention judge (forced hospitalisation, detention of foreigners),
- Permanencies at the juvenile court, emergency educational assistance,
- All hearings will be held in camera and by videoconference when possible.

Regarding the adjournment of hearings and the organization of hearings maintained:

- All civil and criminal hearings other than those mentioned above are automatically adjourned and will be reconvened at a later date,
- Pre-constituted correctional hearings: will only be held for cases involving accused persons detained in connection with the case being called (excluding those detained for other reasons), or placed under judicial supervision,
- For these hearings and immediate trial hearings, videoconferencing will be preferred,
- Judicial extractions can only be carried out if the prison administration is able to ensure them,
- Presidents of correctional hearings will give preference to closed hearings,
- Only persons with a summons relating to the selected cases will be able to access the rooms (defendants under judicial supervision, victims, ad hoc administrators, guardians or curators).

Civil and family emergencies:

- The urgency criterium is assessed in a very restrictive manner and is similar to litigation that usually falls under the short notice summary proceeding or that tends to lead to the issuance of a protection order by the family court judge.

Judicial tribunal of Chambéry (*Tribunal judiciaire de Chambéry*)⁶⁰

- Hearings in insolvency proceedings are adjourned.
- Urgent summary proceedings such as short notice summary proceedings are maintained and for others, the urgency is assessed on a case-by-case basis.

⁶⁰ Switchboard of the court's administration services

Judicial tribunal of Clermont-Ferrand (*Tribunal judiciaire de Clermont-Ferrand*)⁶¹

- Civil and commercial cases: all hearings are adjourned,
- Criminal cases and family matters: only emergencies are processed (detention, protection orders, etc.).

Judicial tribunal of Colmar (*Tribunal judiciaire de Colmar*)⁶²

- Short notice summary proceedings are maintained,
- Emergencies are assessed on a case-by-case basis and handled remotely if necessary.

Judicial tribunal of Douai (*Tribunal judiciaire de Douai*)⁶³

- The court's administration services are closed and all hearings are cancelled. Only emergencies can be dealt with (accueil-douai@justice.fr).

Judicial tribunal of Foix (*Tribunal judiciaire de Foix*)⁶⁴

Permanence TTR (real-time processing) for adults and minors:

- One public prosecutor per week will be on duty from Friday midday to the following Friday midday,

Judicial information / Liberty and detention judge / correctional hearing / execution of sentences:

- The prosecutor in charge of the TTR will carry out these missions alone for one week,

Service of the liberty and detention judge:

- Foreigners litigation by videoconference,
- Litigation of persons hospitalized without consent by prescription without presentation of the patient after ad hoc medical certificate and observations by lawyers,
- Criminal Litigation: correctional emergencies will be handled.

Investigation service:

⁶¹ Switchboard of the court's administration services

⁶² Switchboard of the court's administration services

⁶³ Switchboard of the court's administration services

⁶⁴ Memorandum on the functioning of the Judicial Tribunal of Foix in the presence of COVID-19 - 20 March 2020

- Maintaining of a daily permanence in connection with first appearance questioning and other acts related to detention,

Juvenile court:

- Maintenance of one educational assistance (urgent placement measures) and one criminal permanencies,
- Hearings will be systematically adjourned,
- Only security measures will be processed,

Sentence enforcement service:

- Maintaining of a permanence in an open environment (urgent contradictory debates) and a permanence in a closed environment at the Foix prison,
- The use of videoconferencing is encouraged,

Correctional service:

- Two weekly correctional collegial hearings (Tuesdays and Fridays) that include immediate trials, adjournment of immediate trials, and cases requiring security decisions,
- The litigant is greeted at the entrance of the court by the security service. In the absence of security measures, he or she may be given a summons for a subsequent hearing by the registrar. Persons who do not show up will be systematically summoned again,
- All other hearings, such as guilty plea hearings and single-judge hearings, will be adjourned on the same basis, with a preference, if possible, for the delivery of a summons by a court clerk at the entrance or by e-mail to the defendant's counsel when the defendant is represented,

Family pole:

- Presence of a titular magistrate dealing with emergencies (for example protection orders) - the permanence will be ensured each week by the magistrates present to deal with emergencies.

Civil pole:

- Only urgent civil summary proceedings (buildings threatening ruin) and urgent civil proceedings (real estate in particular), organ donations, co-ownership trustee vacancy (request for appointment of a provisional administrator, co-ownership litigation) and funeral litigation will be handled,
- Deliberations will be adjourned without date,

Litigation protection judges (*juges des contentieux de la protection*):

- All hearings must be adjourned,

Common measures:

- Legal aid applications, requests for release, summonses, declarations of insolvency, must be deposited in the letterboxes located at the entrance to the court when the doors are open or, failing that, in the letterbox located at the entrance to the car park,
- Only statements of appeal or objection will be processed directly by one of the on-duty court clerks,

Contact : civil.tj-foix@justice.fr.

Judicial tribunal of Grenoble (*Tribunal judiciaire de Grenoble*)

Closure of the court, except for the handling of essential litigation, namely:

- Correctional hearings for pre-trial detention and judicial supervision measures,
- Immediate trial hearings,
- Presentations before the examining judge and the liberty and detention judge,
- Sentence enforcement judge hearings in case of emergency,
- Juvenile court and juvenile judge hearings in case of emergency, including educational assistance,
- The public prosecutor's office,
- Summary proceedings before the judicial tribunal for urgent matters, and urgent measures under the jurisdiction of the family court judge (including buildings threatening ruin, eviction of a violent spouse),
- Hearings before the liberty and detention judge (coercive hospitalisation, detention of foreigners),
- Juvenile court permanence, emergency educational assistance,
- Hearings of the Investigating chamber for detention,
- Hearings of the Correctional Appeals Chamber and the Sentence Enforcement Chamber for in case of emergency.

Judicial tribunal of Lille (*Tribunal judiciaire de Lille*)⁶⁵

- All hearings are adjourned except for urgent summary proceedings.

Plan for the resumption of summary proceedings hearings:

- Resumption of hearings on 12 May 2020 with one hearing per week on Tuesday at 2pm,
- Summonses issued from 12 May onwards will therefore have to be issued for the 2pm hearing,

⁶⁵ *Switchboard of the court's administration services*
Note from Douai Court of Appeal, 5 May 2020

- Hearings originally scheduled for Tuesday morning will be held during the afternoon hearing,
- Preference will be given to file deposition and written procedure without hearing,
- Cases will be put under deliberation without the need to come to the hearing or, for cases that require oral argument, it will be arranged in the form of an appointment,
- Two lawyers will be on duty to substitute their colleagues at the hearing,
- The instructions for the hearing are to be communicated by e-mail and not by RPVA: referes.tj@avocats-lille.com, indicating the RG number and the name of the party for which the lawyer is intervening, and with a copy to the contradictor,
- The on-duty lawyers will be able to handle removal of actions and their acceptances, withdrawals from the roll, agreements for procedures without hearing, as well as protests and reservations,
- If the lawyer wishes a case to be pleaded, they should specify this in their instructions by indicating an overall pleading time so that an appointment can be made for a subsequent hearing after the calling of the roll,
- The files to be deposited will be handed in the box provided for this purpose in the "salle de convivialité" (conviviality room), with the signed submissions,
- If no instructions are given to the on-duty lawyers, the case will be adjourned.

Judicial tribunal of Limoges (*Tribunal judiciaire de Limoges*)⁶⁶

- Only emergencies are processed, i.e. short notice summary proceedings, family law protection orders, detention.
- Preventive and insolvency proceedings are not included in emergencies.

Judicial tribunal of Lyon (*Tribunal judiciaire de Lyon*)

In criminal matters:

- Permanences for immediate trials and investigations,

Juvenile Court :

- Criminal service:
 - no hearings will be held, systematic adjournment of cases sine die,
 - exception: cases in which a minor is detained, to rule on the merits if possible or, in the event of extraction or video conferencing being impossible, to rule on the extension of detention or the release of detainees,
- Educational assistance service :

⁶⁶ Switchboard of the court's administration services

- cancellation of all hearings, the juvenile judges will extend the measure, which will be notified at a later date, and a hearing may be scheduled at the end of the containment period,
- same for hearings set after an order for provisional placement has been issued by the public prosecutor's office or the juvenile judge;
- Permanences: maintained, in order to ensure referrals to the Public Prosecutor's Office and to respond to educational assistance emergencies,
- Court's administration services only handle emergencies,
- Only urgent mail is processed.

Judicial tribunal and Commercial Chamber of Metz (*Tribunal judiciaire et chambre commerciale de Metz*)⁶⁷

- All hearings are cancelled, no permanence is ensured.
- Only emergencies are processed such as short notice summary proceedings, family law protection orders, detention.
- Preventive and insolvency proceedings are not considered urgent,
- For each hearing not held in the past or in the future, in cases with lawyers, a deliberation without hearing will be suggested; otherwise the case will be adjourned,
- The submissions may be communicated either by RPVA for the lawyers of the Metz Bar Association, or by e-mail to the structural address of the division (pole-social.tj-metz@justice.fr), or by paper submission to the SAUJ, specifying the RG number and the date of deliberation,
- Hearings with medical examination: adjournment,
- Pre-trial hearings: maintained,
- No order to provide submissions will be issued, cases will simply be adjourned; when the case is ready to be scheduled, a proposal will be made to place the case under deliberation without hearing.

Judicial tribunal of Montauban (*Tribunal judiciaire de Montauban*)⁶⁸

The following are maintained:

- Immediate trial hearings,
- A collegial correctional hearing with detained persons,
- Correctional hearings, only for the purpose of deciding on the continuation of judicial supervision in the context of cases adjournment,
- The public prosecutor's office,

⁶⁷ Switchboard of the court's administration services

⁶⁸ Toulouse Court of Appeal – Judicial Tribunal of Montauban - Implementation of the COVID business continuity plan 19 - 16 March 2020.

- A criminal liberty and detention judge permanence (debates on extension of pre-trial detention, with the use of videoconferencing)
- A liberty and detention judge permanence for coercive hospitalization,
- An investigating permanence,
- A sentence enforcement permanence,
- A juvenile permanence (Criminal and educational assistance),
- A civil emergency proceedings permanence (summary proceedings, funerals, protection orders, etc.)
- Labour court summary proceedings,
- Processing of appeals:
 - for individuals: by post, as evidenced by the postmark
 - the declaration of appeal form should contain the following form:

“Attendu qu’en application des instructions gouvernementales de confinement en lien avec la pandémie de COVID-19, la juridiction est fermée au public ;

Que cette situation apparaît comme un cas de force majeure et qu’en raison de ces circonstances insurmontables et exceptionnelles, les justiciables ont été invités par la juridiction à formaliser leur appel par tout moyen approprié ;

Constatons que nous recevons ce-jour un courrier en date du [cachet de la poste] / un mail en date du [XX] aux termes duquel ...”

- SAUJ reception as needed (phone reception in priority)
- All hearings will be held in camera and by videoconference in proceedings that permit it.

Deliberations: Deliberations that cannot be given by the due date will be adjourned without a date.

Judicial tribunal of Montpellier (*Tribunal judiciaire de Montpellier*)

- Closed until further notice.

Judicial tribunal and Commercial Chamber of Mulhouse (*Tribunal judiciaire et chambre commerciale de Mulhouse*)

- The commercial chamber is closed, no action possible and no contact at the court’s administration services.

Judicial tribunal of Nancy (*Tribunal judiciaire de Nancy*)⁶⁹

- All hearings are adjourned.
- Only emergencies are dealt with and assessed on a case-by-case basis, in particular summary proceedings based on urgency,
- Preventive and insolvency proceedings are not considered emergencies in principle but it is possible to address the tribunal by mail (procedures.collectives.tj-nancy@justice.fr).

Judicial tribunal of Nîmes (*Tribunal judiciaire de Nîmes*)⁷⁰

- Only emergencies in criminal matters are dealt with.

Judicial tribunal of Orleans (*Tribunal judiciaire d'Orléans*)⁷¹

- All hearings are adjourned,
- Only family judge's protection orders, short notice summary proceedings and urgent requests are processed.

Criminal Court:

- The contradictory debates are maintained by videoconference,
- Electronic bracelets are suspended.

Judicial Tribunal of Poitiers (*Tribunal judiciaire de Poitiers*)⁷²

- Only certain emergencies are processed, particularly in criminal matters (liberty and detention judge's hearings).

Judicial Tribunal of Rennes (*Tribunal judiciaire de Rennes*)⁷³

- All hearings are adjourned,
- Only emergencies are dealt with and their urgency is assessed on a case-by-case basis.
- This includes insolvency proceedings if the urgency is characterized.

⁶⁹ Switchboard of the court's administration services

⁷⁰ Switchboard of the court's administration services

⁷¹ Switchboard of the court's administration services

⁷² Switchboard of the court's administration services

⁷³ Switchboard of the court's administration services

Judicial tribunal of Saint-Gaudens (*Tribunal judiciaire de Saint-Gaudens*)⁷⁴

Access to jurisdiction:

- The judicial court and the labour council are closed,
- Only defendants, victims, parties and lawyers for criminal or civil cases that need to be tried urgently can enter,
- Access to the labour council to deal with any emergency will be subject to the authorisation of its president.

Hearings maintained:

- All hearings for immediate trial,
- Presentations before the investigating judge, the sentence enforcement judge and the liberty and detention judge,
- The public prosecutor's office,
- Short notice summary proceedings before the court of justice and after authorization of summons delivered by the president, on request by e-mail (cep.accueil.covid-19.tj-st-gaudens@justice.fr),
- Family court judge's hearings on protection orders, upon petition by e-mail (cep.accueil.covid-19.tj-st-gaudens@justice.fr),
- The use of videoconferencing is the rule,
- All other hearings are deleted.

Judicial and administrative functioning:

- All civil deliberations are adjourned on dates to be indicated at a later date,
- All activities, including administrative ones, are suspended,
- Mail is no longer processed,

Exchanges with the court:

- The switchboard remains active.
- No structural messaging from the jurisdiction will be picked up,
- Mail will not be processed,
- Messaging to contact the court: accueil.covid-19.tj-st-gaudens@justice.fr,
- Requests made to this address that are considered non-urgent will not be processed.

Judicial Tribunal of Strasbourg (*Tribunal judiciaire de Strasbourg*)⁷⁵

Tutelage:

⁷⁴ Order of the Judicial Court of Saint-Gaudens of 19 March 2020

⁷⁵ Email from the president of the Strasbourg Bar Association dated 31 March 2020

- Possible referral of urgent requests to the judges by electronic means using the structural e-mail address of the SAUJ,
- Remember to specify in the e-mail the territorially competent judge, so that the request can be relayed quickly.

Insolvency proceedings:

- Declarations of insolvency will be processed only in cases where companies are unable to pay their employees: form to be completed and sent by e-mail to accueil-strasbourg@justice.fr, accompanied by the following documents:
 - Cerfa form n° 10530*01 completed and signed,
 - RCS excerpt or certificate of registration from the Alsace Chambres des métiers (Chamber of Trades) – 03.89.46.89.16,
 - Latest accounting statements and full contact details (including email address) of the firm in charge of the accounting and/or the preparation of pay slips,
 - Updated bank statement (up-to-date cash flow),
 - Copy of identity card,
 - Copy of the bank account details of all employees (or corresponding information),
 - Sworn statement of the consistency of the company's assets.

Generally, in civil or commercial matters:

- Deliberations without a hearing, by a single judge, will be possible in cases that are ready for trial,
- This possibility applies only to cases in which all parties are represented by a lawyer, whether or not such representation is mandatory,
- Practical details:
 - The judge in charge of the case identifies the case as being likely to be subject to deliberation,
 - He then sends a message to the lawyers, by RPVA or by their direct messaging system, in order to obtain their agreement to hold the case under deliberation without a hearing, as a single judge,
 - Lawyers have 15 days to accept or refuse the principle of deliberation without a hearing,
 - If all of the lawyers involved agree, the exhibits can then be submitted by RPVA or filed with the SAUJ,
 - In principle, the deliberations are scheduled to take place during June,
 - The lawyer may also himself refer the matter to the judge in charge of his case in order to request deliberation without a hearing, provided that all parties in the case are represented by a lawyer. It is then necessary, once again, to obtain the agreement of all the lawyers involved in the case.

Judicial tribunal of Toulon (*Tribunal judiciaire de Toulon*)⁷⁶

- Civil enforcement proceedings: the judge can be reached by email to jex.tj-toulon@justice.fr.

Judicial Tribunal of Toulouse (*Tribunal judiciaire de Toulouse*)⁷⁷

- The court is closed and the physical reception is not assured.
- The most urgent hearings are maintained by decision of the president of the court (examples: immediate trial hearings or short notice summary proceedings).
- It is possible to send requests by registered letter but these will not be processed.

4.2. Commercial Courts contingency plans

Commercial Court of Aix-en-Provence (*Tribunal de commerce d'Aix-en-Provence*)⁷⁸

- The telephone reception is open from 9 am to 12 pm,
- Litigation hearings are postponed to three months,
- Hearings in insolvency proceedings and summary proceedings are postponed to two months, except for short notice summary proceedings and emergency proceedings.

Commercial Court of Amiens (*Tribunal de commerce d'Amiens*)⁷⁹

Summary proceedings:

- Hearings will most likely be postponed.

Insolvency proceedings:

- Request for possible opening but no hearing date.

Preventive proceedings :

- Opening possible, application sent by mail with settlement cheque.

⁷⁶ Switchboard of the court's administration services

⁷⁷ Switchboard of the court's administration services
Communication of the "Compagnie des Juges Consulaires de Strasbourg"

⁷⁸ Switchboard of the court's administration services

⁷⁹ Switchboard of the court's administration services

Commercial Court of Angers (*Tribunal de commerce d'Angers*)⁸⁰

- All hearings are postponed,
- It is possible to send requests by mail, they will be processed as soon as they are received,
- It is possible to ask the president of the tribunal by mail to deal with an urgent request.

Commercial Court of Bordeaux (*Tribunal de commerce de Bordeaux*)⁸¹

- Possible referral of the president of the court for summary proceedings, applications for the opening of *mandat ad hoc*, homologation of conciliation agreements and disposal plans,
- These requests will only be admissible if the cases are of proven urgency, which will be subject to prior assessment by the President,
- Requests should be sent by e-mail to the court's administration services,
- Summary proceedings: the draft summons should be attached before issue,
- For other procedures, the requests, acts and documents justifying the urgent referral must also be attached,
- The court's administration services transmit the requests to the president of the court who will assess the urgency of the case and authorize the referral and hearing of the case according to modalities to be defined with the clerks of the court,

Commercial Court of Bourg-en-Bresse (*Tribunal de commerce de Bourg-en-Bresse*)⁸²

- Physical and telephone reception closed,
- All hearings are suspended,

Preventive proceedings :

- A permanence is ensured by e-mail (secretariat.presidence@greffe-tc-bourgenbresse.fr).

Insolvency proceedings:

- Hearings are suspended for the moment, but the situation could change with regard to petitions to open proceedings,
- Requests for safeguard proceedings, receivership proceedings and judicial liquidation submitted by companies are exceptionally received by post.

⁸⁰ Switchboard of the court's administration services

⁸¹ Note from the Bordeaux Commercial Court of 20 March 2020

⁸² Website of the court's administration services

Trade Register and Privilege Department:

- Dematerialization via the infogreffe site is to be preferred,
- The formalities are processed in the following order:
 - Requests relating to liens and pledges,
 - Dematerialized formalities :
 - Registrations
 - modifications and write-offs
 - "Paper" formalities:
 - registrations
 - modifications and write-offs
 - The formalities are examined in the order of arrival,
- These principles can only be acceded to upon written request and for duly justified reasons of urgency.
- Contact : rsc@greffe-tc-bourgenbresse.fr.

Commercial Court of Chambéry (*Tribunal de commerce de Chambéry*)⁸³ :

- Can be processed within the limits of availability and subject to the next governmental measures, only the measures under:
 - Preventive proceedings for companies in difficulty (*mandat ad hoc* and conciliation),
 - Applications for the opening of safeguard proceedings, receivership proceedings or judicial liquidation.
- Contact : gtc@greffe-tc-chambery.fr.

Commercial Court of Dax (*Tribunal de commerce de Dax*)⁸⁴

- Some essential judicial acts are still maintained,
- Prevention: company managers can request interviews with commercial court judges,
- Insolvency proceedings:
 - opening petitions can be made online on tribunaldigital.fr,
 - for companies already under a safeguard or receivership plan, the terms of repayment to creditors remain unchanged,
 - an extension of the duration of the plan may be considered,
- Contact: the court's administration switchboard can be reached by telephone (05 58 90 06 84) or by email (contact@greffe-tc-dax.fr).

⁸³ Website of the court's administration services

⁸⁴ « Landes : les demandes de sauvegarde se poursuivent au tribunal de commerce de Dax » - Sud-Ouest – 24 April 2020

Commercial Court of Dijon (*Tribunal de commerce de Dijon*)⁸⁵

- Dematerialized requests and formalities to be sent to [infogreffe](http://infogreffe.fr) or tribunaldigital.fr
- Permanence on prevention and insolvency proceedings (exceptionally):
 - *Mandat ad hoc* and conciliation proceedings: requests to be sent by e-mail
 - Safeguard proceedings, receivership and liquidation: contact by mail as well,
 - Urgent requests can be made by phone.

Commercial Court of Douai (*Tribunal de commerce de Douai*)⁸⁶

- Physical reception of the court's administration services closed until further notice,
- They can still be reached by telephone, by fax (03 27 88 40 49) or by mail judiciaire@greffe-tc-douai.fr or judiciaire2@greffe-tc-douai.fr,
- Physical files must be sent by mail

Preventive and insolvency proceedings :

- Applications for the opening of receivership and judicial liquidation, or for *mandat ad hoc* and conciliation proceedings by post, fax or e-mail,
- Leave a phone number and/or email address with the request.

Commercial Court of Grenoble (*Tribunal de commerce de Grenoble*)⁸⁷

- All hearings are cancelled,
- Preventive and insolvency proceedings :
 - Cases of insolvency proceedings will be the subject of court decisions rendered on the basis of the file,
 - Declarations of insolvency are to be made with a form to be sent by post.

Commercial Court of Lille (*Tribunal de commerce de Lille*)⁸⁸

- Court's administration services are closed until further notice, but there's a hotline every day from 2:00 to 4:00,
- RCS (trade register) formalities can be done on infogreffe.fr,
- Referral to the court is possible on tribunaldigital.fr,

⁸⁵ Switchboard of the court's administration services

⁸⁶ Website of the court's administration services

⁸⁷ Website of the court's administration services

⁸⁸ Website of the court's administration services

- Petition to open insolvency proceedings (safeguard proceedings, receivership proceedings, judicial liquidation): download a form on the website of the court's administration services of Lille Métropole, and send it my email: dcp@gtclille.fr,
- Prevention of companies in difficulty: for the appointment of a *mandataire ad hoc*, a conciliator, or a request for first aid funds, send an e-mail to t.c.lille@orange.fr.

Commercial Court of Limoges (*Tribunal de commerce de Limoges*)⁸⁹

- Court's administration services are closed until further notice but reachable by e-mail only (guichet@greffe-tc-limoges.fr),
- All hearings are cancelled and will be reconvened,
- Physical files are to be sent by post and will be processed within a maximum of 7 days,
- Referral to the court is available online

Commercial Court of Lyon (*Tribunal de commerce de Lyon*)⁹⁰

Litigation:

- General litigation: no hearings until April 10,
- Summary proceedings: No hearings until April 10, except short notice summary proceedings
- Judge in charge of processing the case (JCIA): Hearings are postponed to a collegial hearing after 10 April,
- Alternative Dispute Resolution Methods: new call for cases coming until April 10.

Insolvency proceedings:

- Court Hearings: No more hearings until April 10. Study of case-on-case for declaration of insolvency and companies in observation period. Adjournment of summons.
- Handling of declarations of insolvency: 04.72.60.69.82, by mail dcp@greffe-tc-lyon.fr or on www.tribunaldigital.fr.
- Bankruptcy Judge: Adjournment except in emergencies,
- Investigating Judge: adjournment.

Amicable proceedings:

- Emergencies are insured.

Privileges and pledges:

⁸⁹ Website of the court's administration services

⁹⁰ Thierry Gardon, President of the Commercial Court of Lyon on franceinfo.fr

- Requests and filings to be made by e-mail (privilege@greffe-tc-lyon.fr).

Court's administration services :

- Can be reached by phone: 04.72.60.69.80 or 0 891 02 69 60,
- Telephone and e-mail hotlines provided for the prevention and treatment of companies in difficulty certain mornings (04.72.60.69.99 or prevention@greffe-tc-lyon.fr).

Commercial Court of Marseille (*Tribunal de commerce de Marseille*)⁹¹

Litigation:

- General litigation: only urgent hearings,
- Summary proceedings: only the summary proceedings before the President of the Commercial Court are maintained,
- Judge in charge of investigating the case (JCIA): the hearings are referred to the President of the commercial Court,
- Petitions: the request for a short notice summary proceeding (*référé d'heure à heure*) or a summons can be filed on the website www.tribunaldigital.fr :
 - Request for a short notice summary proceeding (*référé d'heure à heure*): the President grants the request and authorizes the summons depending on the urgency of the request,
 - Summary proceedings summons: according to the President's assessment, the case is placed on the roll,
 - Other requests: any other request is left to the discretion of the President in light of the urgency of the request.

Insolvency proceedings:

- Judge in charge of investigating the case: hearings are referred to the President of the commercial Court,
- Requests: safeguard proceedings, receivership proceedings, judicial liquidation or reinstatement may be requested. The opening request is sent via www.tribunaldigital.fr,
- Declarations of insolvency are to be filed on www.tribunaldigital.fr,
- The court or the bankruptcy judge can be referred to by the judicial receiver or the creditor representative of a proceeding in progress, in case of emergency by email:
 - Bankruptcy judge: requetejc@greffe-tc-marseille.fr,
 - Court: ajmj@greffe-tc-marseille.fr,

Companies difficulties:

⁹¹ Continuity plan of the court, 6 April 2020

- Requests:
 - *Mandat ad hoc*: the request for the opening is filed on www.tribunaldigital.fr,
 - Homologation of a conciliation agreement: only the conciliation proceedings currently in progress are covered. The requests and deposits of the conciliator are made by email: ajmj@greffe-tc-marseille.fr,
 - Approval of a disposal plan: unless a receivership proceeding is underway. The requests and deposits of the creditor representative or the judicial receiver are made by email: ajmj@greffe-tc-marseille.fr.

Privileges and pledges: Possibility to contact the service by email: nantgmar@greffe-tc-marseille.fr.

Court's administration services:

- The court's administration can be contacted by email:
 - RCS (trade register): rsc@greffe-tc-marseille.fr
 - Insolvency proceedings: secretariatpcl@greffe-tc-marseille.fr
 - Prevention and preventive proceedings: prevention@greffe-tc-marseille.fr
- The dematerialized services of the court's administration services and all RCS formalities (Kbis, copies, formalities, etc.) can be carried out 24/7 on: www.infogreffe.fr,
- Referral to the court is available online at: www.tribunaldigital.fr,
- A telephone helpline is provided for the prevention and treatment of companies' difficulties.

Commercial Court of Montpellier (*Tribunal de commerce de Montpellier*)

- Court and administration services closed until further notice.
- All RCS (trade register) formalities (registration, modification, cancellation, beneficial owner(s), filing of deeds and annual accounts) can be carried out 24/7 on www.infogreffe.fr.
- All the dematerialized services of the registry (Kbis, States, copies, formalities...) are available on www.infogreffe.fr
- Prevention and treatment of business difficulties: the court's administration services can be reached by e-mail (audience@greffe-tc-montpellier.fr) and, if necessary, receive the manager in case of emergency.

Commercial Court of Nice (*Tribunal de commerce de Nice*)⁹²

- The opening of *mandat ad hoc* proceedings are part of the urgent matters to be dealt with.
- Procedure :

⁹² Switchboard of the court's administration services

- Sending of the request by e-mail with the corresponding documents (company registration certificate, statement of pledges, latest annual accounts, cash position, projected operating account, fee agreement with the agent if applicable),
- Upon receipt, a date will be communicated for a videoconference interview.

Commercial Court of Nîmes (*Tribunal de commerce de Nîmes*)⁹³

- The physical reception is closed and court's administration services can be contacted by e-mail,
- Preventive proceedings: privilege@greffe-tc-nimes.fr,
- Insolvency proceedings: pc@greffe-tc-nimes.fr.

Commercial Court of Orleans (*Tribunal de commerce d'Orléans*)⁹⁴

- Court's administration services are closed to the public,
- Steps to be taken online via infogreffe.fr or on www.tribunaldigital.fr.

Commercial Court of Poitiers (*Tribunal de commerce de Poitiers*)⁹⁵

- Court's administration services are closed until further notice,
- No postal processing is provided,
- Request for a telephone interview to be informed about the solutions for dealing with the company's difficulties by e-mail (contact@greffe-tc-poitiers.fr),
- Requests for a *mandat ad hoc* (preferred) or conciliation (exceptionally) proceedings: complete file to be sent by e-mail (contact@greffe-tc-poitiers.fr).

Commercial Court of Reims (*Tribunal de commerce de Reims*)⁹⁶

- Court's administration services closed until further notice,
- Formalities and referrals on [infogreffe](http://infogreffe.fr) and tribunaldigital.fr,
- Contact : pc@greffe-tc-reims.fr ou rsc@greffe-tc-reims.fr.

⁹³ Switchboard of the court's administration services

⁹⁴ Website of the court's administration services

⁹⁵ Website of the court's administration services

⁹⁶ Website of the court's administration services

Commercial Court of Rennes (*Tribunal de commerce de Rennes*)⁹⁷

- Summary proceedings: only emergencies are covered (termination of commercial relations, unfair competition, etc.),
- Insolvency proceedings:
 - possibility to file a case but the application will not be processed (subject to future government measures),
 - exceptionally, possibility of holding a videoconference hearing to decide on a disposal plan
- Preventive proceedings: possibility of opening a *mandat ad hoc* only.

Commercial Court of Rouen (*Tribunal de commerce de Rouen*)⁹⁸

Summary proceedings: All hearings are postponed,

Civil enforcement proceedings: all hearings are postponed,

Hearings on the merits: all hearings are postponed,

Preventive proceedings:

- *Mandat ad hoc*: possibility of opening a new procedure,
- Conciliation: only requests for extensions will be processed, no new procedures will be opened,

Insolvency proceedings :

- No opening request will be processed,
- Possibility to decide on disposal plans if necessary.

Commercial Court of Toulouse (*Tribunal de commerce de Toulouse*)⁹⁹

- Closing of the court's administration services until further notice, but they can still be reached by phone or e-mail (05 61 11 02 00 or greffe@greffe-tc-toulouse.fr).
- Physical files can be deposited in the box provided for this purpose,
- The court's administration dematerialized services are available on infogreffe,
- Telephone hotline for the prevention and treatment of business difficulties, with physical interviews possible in case of emergency: 05 61 23 38 16.

⁹⁷ Website of the court's administration services

⁹⁸ Switchboard of the court's administration services

⁹⁹ Website of the court's administration services

Commercial Court of Vienne (*Tribunal de commerce de Vienne*)

- Possibility of opening preventive or insolvency proceedings in case of urgency, assessed on a case-by-case basis by the president after receiving a form sent by the applicant.

4.3. Labor Courts contingency plans

Fort-de-France Labor Court (*Conseil de Prud'hommes de Fort-de-France*)¹⁰⁰

Summary proceedings:

- No recovery arrangements announced,
- Announcement of a resumption of hearings after the end of containment.

Tie-breaking:

- Filing hearing on 7 May 2020 for cases that have not been scheduled for the period March/April; an e-mail will be sent to the lawyers involved,
- Social division (ex TASS): all hearings are adjourned to September 2020,
- Only urgent cases (sickness, retirement) sorted out by the judge will be called in May or June 2020 upon agreement of the parties,
- First hearing on 14 May 2020,
- For hearings on the merits no resumption arrangements announced; all hearings are adjourned sine die.

Lyon Labor Court (*Conseil de Prud'hommes de Lyon*)¹⁰¹

- The court is closed,
- The 1st President of the Court of Appeal of Lyon has appointed 4 magistrates of the Judicial Tribunal of Lyon to deal with the summary proceedings of the Labor Court.

Pointe-à-Pitre Labor Court (*Conseil de Prud'hommes de Pointe-à-Pitre*)¹⁰²

Summary proceedings: Hearings initially scheduled for Monday, 16 March 2020, 23 March 2020, 30 March 2020 and 6 April 2020 are adjourned to the hearing of 28 April 2020 at 10 a.m. in Room of the Judicial Tribunal,

¹⁰⁰ Flash Info du Barreau de Paris du 27 avril 2020

¹⁰¹ Flash Info du Barreau de Paris du 27 avril 2020

¹⁰² Flash Info du Barreau de Paris du 27 avril 2020

Tie-breaking: For hearings on the merits no resumption arrangements announced; all hearings are adjourned sine die,

Observations:

- A deposit sheet should be stamped at the SAJJ office during the Tribunal's business hours,
- Only cases whose submissions by all parties are complete will be heard.

Saint-Denis de la Réunion Labor Court (*Conseil de Prud'hommes de Saint-Denis de la Réunion*)¹⁰³

Summary proceedings and tie-breaking:

- No resumption arrangements announced,
- Announcement of a resumption of hearings after the end of containment.

4.4. Courts of Appeal contingency plans

Cour of Appeal of Agen (*Cour d'appel d'Agen*)¹⁰⁴

- Closed to the public, except upon invitation,
- Hearings are adjourned except for urgent hearings by videoconference,

Court of Appeal of Aix-en-Provence (*Cour d'appel d'Aix-en-Provence*)¹⁰⁵

All hearings are adjourned sine die without adjournment made at the hearing. The persons concerned will be reconvened. Only priority litigation is maintained:

Criminal litigation:

- Cases involving detained persons for hearings before the Assize Court, Investigating Chambers and Correctional Chambers.

Civil litigation:

- Litigation before the emergency chamber, in particular measures for coercive hospitalisation and the detention of foreigners.

¹⁰³ Flash Info du Barreau de Paris du 27 avril 2020

¹⁰⁴ Switchboard of the court's administration services

¹⁰⁵ Communication of the Heads of Court of 17 March 2020

Social division:

- Hearings before the social summary proceedings court.
- In general, closed hearings may be ordered.

Jurisdictions within the jurisdiction of the Court of Appeal of Aix-en-Provence

- Closed to the public until further notice,
- Handling of priority litigation :
 - Correctional hearings for pre-trial detention and judicial supervision measures,
 - Immediate trial hearings,
 - Presentations before the examining judge and the liberty and detention judge,
 - Sentence enforcement judge hearings for emergency management,
 - Hearings of the juvenile court and the juvenile judge for the management of emergencies, including educational assistance,
 - Permanence of the public prosecutor's office,
 - Summary proceedings before the judicial tribunal for emergency (including buildings threatening ruin) and urgent measures under the jurisdiction of the family court judge (eviction of a violent spouse),
 - Hearings before a liberty and detention judge (coercive hospitalization, detention of foreigners),
 - Juvenile court permanence, emergency educational assistance,
 - Hearings of the Investigation Chamber for detention,
 - Hearings of the Correctional Appeals Chamber and the Sentence Enforcement Chamber for emergency management.

Court of Appeal of Amiens (*Cour d'appel d'Amiens*)¹⁰⁶

The courts will be closed, except for the handling of essential disputes, namely:

- Criminal and civil emergency services of the courts,
- Imprisonment in conditions worthy of prisoners,
- The reception of minors entrusted to the judicial youth protection.

Court of Appeal of Angers (*Cour d'appel d'Angers*)¹⁰⁷

- Hearings are adjourned unless otherwise convened.
- The court is closed and filings are made by email.

¹⁰⁶ *Switchboard of the court's administration services*

¹⁰⁷ *Switchboard of the court's administration services*

Court of Appeal of Bastia (*Cour d'appel de Bastia*)¹⁰⁸

The court is closed and all hearings are adjourned except for:

- Hearings of the Detention Investigation Chamber,
- Hearings in the Corrections Appeals Chamber and the Sentence Enforcement Chamber for emergency management.

Court of Appeal of Besançon (*Cour d'appel de Besançon*)¹⁰⁹

- The court is closed.
- In case of emergency, it is possible to contact the Court by e-mail (<http://www.ca-besancon.justice.fr>).

Court of Appeal of Bordeaux (*Cour d'appel de Bordeaux*)¹¹⁰

In civil and social matters: adjournment of all cases without date,

In criminal matters :

- Investigation Chamber:
 - Everything is adjourned without date except detention litigation,
 - Detention litigation (request for release, liberty and detention judge appeals): hearings are maintained but there will be no extraction, everything will be done by videoconference. The brief can be sent by e-mail (instruction.ca-bordeaux@justice.fr).

Emergencies :

- Emergencies are assessed on a case-by-case basis and are dealt with on Tuesdays and Thursdays. They mainly involve detention and family issues.
- Hearings in summary proceedings before the first president are maintained.

Court of Appeal of Bourg-en-Bresse (*Cour d'appel de Bourg-en-Bresse*)¹¹¹

- The court is closed and hearings are adjourned except in case of emergency.
- Essential litigation services are maintained.
- Reception is closed and requests are processed by email.

¹⁰⁸ *Switchboard of the court's administration services*

¹⁰⁹ *Switchboard of the court's administration services*

¹¹⁰ *Switchboard of the court's administration services*

¹¹¹ *Switchboard of the court's administration services*

Court of Appeal of Bourges (*Cour d'appel de Bourges*)¹¹²

- All procedures are maintained for the moment.
- As regards proceedings with mandatory representation, for cases where the file was filed on time, they will be placed under deliberation on the condition that the lawyers do not object.

Court of Appeal of Caen (*Cour d'appel de Caen*)¹¹³

The following are maintained:

- Criminal: appeals in correctional matters, hearings of the Sentence Enforcement and Investigation Division,
- Civil: summary proceedings before the first president and coercive hospitalization.

Court of Appeal of Chambéry (*Cour d'appel de Chambéry*)¹¹⁴

- Criminal: hearings of the Corrections and Investigation Chambers are currently being held,
- Civil: Hearings on coercive hospitalization continue.

Court of Appeal of Colmar (*Cour d'appel de Colmar*)¹¹⁵

- Criminal: hearings of the correctional and investigation chambers, on Tuesdays and Thursdays, concerning detention, are maintained,
- Civil: Hearings are held on Mondays for emergencies.

Court of Appeal of Dijon (*Cour d'appel de Dijon*)¹¹⁶

- Criminal: all hearings are adjourned except detention hearings, which may be held by videoconference or in court,
- Civil (1st civil chamber): subject to the agreement of the lawyers concerned, they file the case, and a date for deliberation is set without a hearing being held.

¹¹² *Switchboard of the court's administration services*

¹¹³ *Switchboard of the court's administration services*

¹¹⁴ *Switchboard of the court's administration services*

¹¹⁵ *Switchboard of the court's administration services*

¹¹⁶ *Switchboard of the court's administration services*

Court of Appeal of Douai (*Cour d'appel de Douai*)¹¹⁷

- All hearings are postponed except for emergencies.

Court of Appeal of Limoges (*Cour d'appel de Limoges*)¹¹⁸

- Criminal: hearings of investigating and correctional chambers on Thursday and Friday mornings, by videoconference with the detainees' lawyers.
- Civil: no hearings are held.

Court of Appeal of Lyon (*Cour d'appel de Lyon*)¹¹⁹

- The court is closed and hearings are adjourned except in case of emergency.
- The following are maintained:
 - Criminal: correctional hearings, hearings of immediate trial, presentations to the examining magistrate, the liberty and detention judge, hearings with civil liberties and hearings of the detention judges of the Chamber of Appeal and the enforcement of sentences in case of emergency.
 - Civil: urgent proceedings at short notice (short notice summary proceedings) and referrals to the President.

Court of Appeal of Metz (*Cour d'appel de Metz*)¹²⁰

- Civil: adjournment of all cases,
- Criminal: Only correctional hearings involving detained persons are held, by videoconference.

Court of Appeal of Montpellier (*Cour d'appel de Montpellier*)¹²¹

- All hearings are adjourned with the exception of cases involving detained persons.
- New summonses will be sent out at a later date for adjourned hearings.

¹¹⁷ *Switchboard of the court's administration services*

¹¹⁸ *Switchboard of the court's administration services*

¹¹⁹ *Switchboard of the court's administration services*

¹²⁰ *Switchboard of the court's administration services*

¹²¹ *Switchboard of the court's administration services*

Court of Appeal of Nancy (*Cour d'appel de Nancy*)¹²²

- No hearings are held except in matters of instructions.

Court of Appeal of Nice (*Cour d'appel de Nice*)¹²³

- The Court of Appeal of Aix en Provence has jurisdiction.
- The courthouse is closed, except for the handling of essential disputes.

Court of Appeal of Nîmes (*Cour d'appel de Nîmes*)¹²⁴

- Criminal: hearings in correctional, trial and court of assizes matters are held,
- Civil: all hearings are cancelled except for the summary proceedings of the first president and the hearings of the juvenile chamber (educational assistance).

Court of Appeal of Orléans (*Cour d'appel d'Orléans*)¹²⁵

- Criminal: hearings of the Correctional and Investigation Chambers are held in urgent cases,
- Civil: for written proceedings and subject to the agreement of the lawyers involved, the case is filed and a date for deliberation is set without a hearing being held.

Court of Appeal of Reims (*Cour d'appel de Reims*)¹²⁶

- The Court is closed, reception reserved for lawyers and litigants who wish to appeal or lodge an appeal, Monday to Friday from 1.45 pm to 5 pm.

Court of Appeal of Riom (*Cour d'appel de Riom*)¹²⁷

- Criminal: emergency hearings involving detainees,
- Civil: everything is postponed.

¹²² Switchboard of the court's administration services

¹²³ Switchboard of the court's administration services

¹²⁴ Switchboard of the court's administration services

¹²⁵ Switchboard of the court's administration services

¹²⁶ Switchboard of the court's administration services

¹²⁷ Switchboard of the court's administration services

Court of Appeal of Toulouse (*Cour d'appel de Toulouse*)¹²⁸

- The court is closed,
- All hearings are postponed except in emergency situations,
- New notices will be sent later at adjourned hearings.

4.5. Other jurisdictions

Bordeaux Criminal Court

- Hearings of the 7th Chamber continued,
- Cancellation of other hearings, except for cases heard with security measures (judicial review, PD) of the various correctional chambers,
- These files will be dealt with a view to adjournment and the maintenance of security measures each day at the hearing of the 7th Chamber.

Assize Court of Bouches-du-Rhones and Alpes-Maritimes¹²⁹

- Hearings postponed to a later date.

European Court of Humans Rights¹³⁰

- Essential activities (such as the receipt and allocation of claims to the competent judicial formations) are ensured,
- The six-month time-limit for lodging a claim has been exceptionally suspended for a period of one month from 16 March 2020,
- All time limits in the pending proceedings have also been suspended for a period of one month from 16 March 2020,
- By way of written procedure, the Grand Chamber was able to continue its work on certain pending cases,
- The Chambers rendered judgments on 15 claims and decisions on 26 claims,
- The Court has decided not to notify any further judgments and decisions until normal activity resumes. Consequently, with the exception of the Grand Chamber and particularly urgent cases, the Court will continue to render judgments and decisions, but will suspend delivery until such time as normal activity resumes.

¹²⁸ *Switchboard of the court's administration services*

¹²⁹ *Communication of the Heads of Court of 17 March 2020*

¹³⁰ *Communication « L'Europe en Bref » n°905*

As a result of the containment measures currently in force in France, the courts have closed their doors and put in place continuation plans and exceptional digital measures in order to deal with urgent cases. All civil enforcement procedures, safeguard proceedings, judicial receivership and liquidation proceedings are deprioritized, except in exceptional cases (particularly in the event of a major social impact). However, confidential preventive procedures such as the mandat ad hoc and conciliation are prioritised, managed digitally and via videoconferences or telephone conferences, with particular attention paid to cases where the stakes are higher in terms of social impact and on creditors.

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