At 3:30PM on May 5, 2020, Derek Cox and Giselle Martin became the first couple to be married virtually in Alameda County. The Alameda County Clerk-Recorder’s Office was able to issue them their online marriage license and perform their marriage ceremony virtually pursuant to Governor Newsom’s Executive Order N-58-20.

Melissa Wilk, the County’s Auditor-Controller/Clerk-Recorder provided the following statement:

"I want to congratulate Derek and Giselle and thank Governor Newsom for recognizing the need of California residents to safely proceed with their marriage plans during this incredibly uncertain time while still providing for social distancing. The staff of the Alameda County Clerk-Recorder's Office and the County's Information Technology Department worked at record speed to implement the Governor’s Executive Order. We couldn't be more thrilled to be able to offer online marriage services to our customers because we know that when benefits and family lives are uncertain, ensuring basic rights like marriage is so very important to all of us."

The Clerk-Recorder’s Office is offering online marriage licenses only in conjunction with a virtual marriage ceremony. In order to complete this process, interested couples will need reliable, high-speed internet access and the ability to run the MS Teams meeting software – including audio AND visual capabilities (i.e., phone, microphone, speakers, and webcam). In addition, the couple must be physically located within the State of California for the video conference.

Fees for the marriage license, ceremony, and certified copies are as follows:

$81.00 – Public Marriage License
$90.00 – Confidential Marriage License
$75.00 – Marriage Ceremony
$17.00 – Each certified copy of the marriage certificate

Interested couples should send an e-mail to CROCustomerService@acgov.org to begin the process.