

IN THE DISTRICT COURT OF THE STATE OF WASHINGTON
FOR BENTON COUNTY

IN RE THE MATTER OF THE RESPONSE) No. 20-005
BY BENTON COUNTY DISTRICT COURT)
TO THE PUBLIC HEALTH EMERGENCY) EMERGENCY ORDER
IN BENTON COUNTY) re: Jury Trials
AND THE STATE OF WASHINGTON) Mitigation Hearings

EFFECTIVE: July 28, 2020

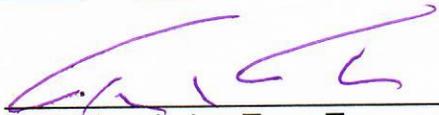
The public health emergency in Washington State posed by the coronavirus 2019 (COVID-19) continues to evolve and requires modification of Emergency Order #20-001 (issued March 18, 2020), and Emergency Order #20-003 (issued April 9, 2020). The above orders are incorporated by reference and modified consistent with Washington State Supreme Court Order dated May 28, 2020, No. 25700-B-625.

Benton County is one of three counties in the State of Washington that remains in Phase 1.5 (Modified Phase 1) restrictions. As of the date of this Order, COVID-19 infection rates continue to increase. The safety of our citizens is of primary concern; therefore, effective July 28, 2020 we are making modifications as follows:

1. Consistent with the Benton County Superior Court Emergency Order #5A, no jury trial in a civil or criminal case will be held during the month of August 2020. This Court will continue to work toward the goal of having jury trials to the extent it can be safely accomplished.
2. Mitigated infraction hearings will continue to be held by mail or email through December 31, 2020. Notices for mitigation hearings will include the form to mitigate by mail or email. To effectuate all mitigation hearings being held by mail or email, the scheduled hearing requirement of IRLJ 2.6 (b) is suspended.

NOW, THEREFORE it is hereby **ORDERED**, pursuant to the authority of Washington Supreme Court Order #25700-B-625 & 626, and the authority as the Presiding Judge of Benton County, that the following shall be in effect:

DATED this 27th day of July, 2020.



Presiding Judge Terry Tanner