

IN THE MUNICIPAL COURT FOR THE CITIES OF
BATTLE GROUND, LA CENTER AND RIDGEFIELD

IN THE MATTER OF)	ADMINISTRATIVE ORDER
)	No. 2020-1
)	
Emergency Response to Public Health)	
(Coronavirus / COVID 19))	
_____)	

WHEREAS, the Chief Justice of the Washington Supreme Court has issued Supreme court Order No.25700-B-602 in response to the public health emergency that affects operations of the trial courts in Washington State on March 4, 2020; and

WHEREAS, the Washington Supreme Court order grants emergency authority to this Court to adopt, modify, and suspend court rules and orders; and to take further action concerning court operations as warranted to address the current state of emergency.

NOW, THEREFORE, IT IS HEREBY ORDERED:

1. Criminal custody matters will be done by video conferencing and shall proceed as scheduled;
2. Criminal out of custody arraignments, **excluding** impaired driving as cited under Chapter 46.61.502 RCW, any domestic violence offense as defined by Chapter 26.50 RCW, sexual offences, any violent offenses including Assault IV as cited under Chapter 9A.36.041 RCW, or any offense cited as a violation of an order issued pursuant to RCW 26.44.063 or Chapter 7.92, 7.90, 9A.40, 9A.46, 9A.88, 10.00, 26.09, 26.10, 26.26A, 26.26B. 26.50 or 74.34 RCW, or any other offense mandating arrest pursuant to Chapter 10.31.100 RCW shall be cancelled and rescheduled by summons to a date after April 30, 2020;
3. Arraignments for impaired driving offense as cited under Chapter 46.61.502 RCW, any domestic violence offense as defined by Chapter 26.50 RCW, sexual offences, any violent offenses including Assault IV as cited under Chapter 9A.36.041 RCW, or any offense cited as a violation of an order issued pursuant to RCW 26.44.063 or Chapter 7.92, 7.90, 9A.40, 9A.46, 9A.88, 10.00, 26.09, 26.10, 26.26A, 26.26B. 26.50 or 74.34 RCW, or any other offense mandating arrest pursuant to Chapter 10.31.100 RCW , shall be conducted as cited into court. Any person who contacts the court to report that he/she is experiencing illness or quarantine will remain on the calendar as scheduled, but may participate in their hearing telephonically with permission of the Court To participate in their hearing telephonically, the Defendant must provide a valid address and phone number for court staff to call and the docket will reflect the call and the order of the judge. All Orders entered by the Court shall be mailed to the address provided by the Defendant.
4. All pro-se hearings, readiness hearings, review hearings, motion hearings, and show cause hearings scheduled between March 18, 2020 through April 27, 2020 shall be rescheduled for a date after April 30, 2020. Speedy trial for all such defendants shall be suspended during this time as specifically authorized by Washington Supreme Court Order No.25700-B-602.

5. Any person scheduled for a mitigated or contested traffic infraction will be rescheduled for a date after April 30, 2020;
6. Court offices will be closed to the public Mondays, Tuesdays, Wednesdays, and Fridays. Court will be conducted for cases noted above on Thursdays and any further changes in operations will be posted on the court website at www.cityofbg.org. Court offices shall only be open to the public on Thursdays for the duration of the Municipal Court Docket.
7. Effective March 16, 2020 through May 14, 2020, warrants may be cancelled by cash or credit card only on Thursdays and such defendants shall be seen the same day by the Municipal Court Judge;
8. All jury trials scheduled to be held between March 16, 2020 and April 30, 2020 are cancelled and jurors are excused. The time between the currently scheduled trial date and the next scheduled date will be deemed an excluded period of speedy trial for purposes of CrRLI 3.3;
9. Work crew will be suspended until May 14, 2020;
10. All Battle Ground, Ridgefield, and La Center Defendants either held on bail by the Battle Ground Municipal Court or serving a jail sanction as ordered by the Battle Ground Municipal court may be released from custody in the Clark County or Skamania County Jails as determined appropriate and necessary by the relative jail agency. If any such defendants are not released by any court orders already entered by the Clark County District Court or Superior Court, Skamania Superior Court, or as determined necessary by Clark County or Skamania County jail, then such defendants may bring a motion before this Court to seek release based upon a showing of detriment to their health by remaining in custody. Such motions will be evaluated on a case by case basis by this Court and may be heard on Thursdays.
11. The judge may issue further orders as may be necessary to ensure that the maximum permissible number of persons in the courtroom is not exceeded.

Dated this 16th day of March, 2020

/s/ Roger Bennett

Roger Bennett, Presiding Judge