

IN THE DISTRICT COURT
FOR THE COUNTY OF DOUGLAS

IN THE MATTER OF THE EMERGENCY) ADMINISTRATIVE ORDER
RESPONSE TO THE THREAT TO PUBLIC)
HEALTH) NO. 20-001
)

WHEREAS, the governor of the State of Washington has declared a state of emergency concerning the COVID-19 due to public health concerns, and

WHEREAS, the Washington State Supreme Court has adopted Order No. 25700-B-602, granting emergency authority to this court to adopt, modify, and suspend court rules and orders, and to take further actions concerning court operations, as warranted to address the current state of emergency;

NOW, THEREFORE, IT IS HEREBY ORDERED, EFFECTIVE IMMEDIATELY:

1. All jury trials scheduled for the remainder of March 2020, and the month of April, 2020 are cancelled and jurors are excused. The court will provide the attorneys for defendants the next appearance court date for their clients which shall be in May or June 2020. Attorneys will be responsible for notifying their clients of their next court date.

2. All "in-person" infraction hearings scheduled for the remainder of March 2020, and the month of April 2020 are cancelled. The clerk shall provide telephonic notice, or send written notice cancelling and rescheduling the hearing to the affected party. The affected party shall be provided the option of conducting an "on-line" or "in-writing" infraction hearing.

3. The court's weekly Tuesday Criminal Law and Motion calendars and bi-weekly Probation calendars are cancelled for the remainder of March 2020 and the month of April 2020. The court will provide the attorneys for defendants the next appearance court date for their clients which shall be in May or June 2020. Attorneys will be responsible for notifying their clients of their next court date. The prosecutor's

office shall notify all pro se defendants when their next court date has been continued to. The probation department shall notify all defendants whom are pending probation violations when their next court date has been continued to:

4. The court's Wednesday Arraignment calendar remains unchanged, except: any person scheduled for an arraignment for a charge which is NOT a DUI or Domestic Violence offense, who contacts the court to report they are experiencing illness or quarantine will be rescheduled to an arraignment date in six weeks. No further notice of the new court hearing date will be provided by the court.

5. Any person scheduled for an arraignment for a DUI or Domestic Violence offense who contacts the court to report they are experiencing illness or quarantine will remain on the calendar as scheduled. The call to the court will be recorded in the court docket.

6. All Civil and Small Claims cases scheduled for in court hearings on April 10th, 2020 are cancelled and will be rescheduled to the May or June calendar. Civil motions may be noted and heard by telephone, or without oral argument; ex parte matters will continue to be processed. During the pendency of this order the court waives the requirement of a written motion/order to appear by telephone.

7. Pending and new Petitions for Protection Orders; including without limitation, anti-harassment, domestic violence, stalking and sexual assault will be processed and proceed according to current court practice and policy.

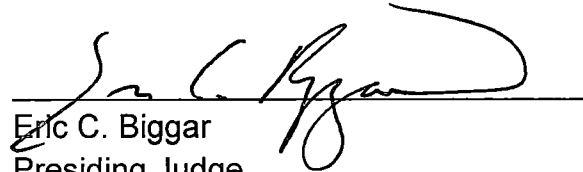
8. Any pending Name Change Petitions scheduled for the remainder of March 2020 and April 2020 shall be continued to the May or June 2020 calendar. Any new Name Change Petitions filed shall be scheduled for May or June 2020. Any emergent Name Change Petitions which are filed that cannot be scheduled for May or June 2020 will be addressed by the court on a case-by- case basis.

9. The court waives any requirement of attorney or defendant signature on the following forms; advice of rights, affidavit of indigency, clerk's notes which are processed at criminal arraignment hearings.

For all hearings currently pending and for hearings on new cases filed during the pendency of this order that are delayed by effect of this order, the delay/continuance shall constitute an excluded period for purposes of Speedy Trial, CrRLJ 3.3, CrRLJ 4.1, IRLJ 2.2, IRLJ 2.4, IRLJ 2.6, and any other applicable court rule.

This order may be modified consistent with the Court's continual assessment of the needs of the community as well as the recommendations of public health officials.

DATED this 16th day of March, 2020.


Eric C. Biggar
Presiding Judge
Douglas County District Court