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6 DISTRICT COURT OF WASHINGTON  
7 DOUGLAS COUNTY

8 IN THE MATTER OF: Emergency Response) No. 20-004  
9 to COVID-19 Public Health and Safety )  
10 ) EMERGENCY ADMINISTRATIVE  
11 ) ORDER

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

13 WHEREAS, on February 29, 2020, the Governor of the State of Washington  
14 declared a state of emergency concerning COVID-19 due to public health concerns in  
15 the State of Washington; and on March 13, 2020 President Trump declared a national  
16 emergency due to the COVID-19 outbreak across the United States;

17 WHEREAS, the Washington State Supreme Court has adopted Order No.  
18 25700-B-602, and has revised and extended its order regarding court operations,  
19 granting emergency authority to this court to adopt, modify, and suspend court rules and  
20 orders, and to take further actions concerning court operations, as warranted to address  
21 the current state of emergency;

22 WHEREAS, the Court finds that the current COVID-19 positive rates in Douglas  
23 County place the health and safety of the public, court participants, court employees,  
24 and jurors at risk from said pandemic; and

ORDER - 1

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2 NOW, THEREFORE, pursuant to the Court's authority to administer justice and  
3 to ensure the safety of court participants, court employees and the public, and under the  
4 authority granted to the Court by the Washington State Supreme Court;

5 IT IS HEREBY ORDERED THAT:  
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7 1. All criminal jury trials scheduled for the remainder of November 2020, and the  
8 months of December, 2020 and January, 2021 are cancelled and jurors are excused.  
9 All criminal jury trials in Douglas County District Court are suspended pending further  
10 order. For all cases with jury trials scheduled, new court dates will be set at the  
11 scheduled readiness hearing. Attorneys will be responsible for notifying their clients of  
12 their next court date.

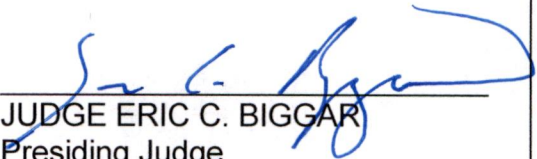
13 2. The court's weekly Tuesday Criminal Law and Motion in-person calendars  
14 and bi-weekly Probation in-person calendars will be switched to ZOOM tele-  
15 conferencing commencing November 24, 2020. Attorneys will be responsible for  
16 notifying their clients with ZOOM tele-conferencing instructions on how to appear at  
17 their scheduled hearing. The prosecutor's office and/or clerk's office shall provide all  
18 pro se defendants with ZOOM tele-conferencing instructions on how to appear at their  
19 scheduled hearing. The probation department shall provide all defendants who are  
20 pending probation violation hearings with ZOOM tele-conferencing instructions on how  
21 to appear at their scheduled hearing.

22 3. All other court calendars remain unchanged pending the Court's ongoing  
23 assessment and monitoring of the public health crisis (COVID-19).  
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2 For all hearings currently pending and for hearings on new cases filed during the  
3 pendency of this order that are delayed by effect of this order, the delay/continuance  
4 shall constitute an unavoidable circumstance and an excluded period for purposes of  
5 Speedy Trial, CrRLJ 3.3 and CrRLJ 4.1, and any other applicable court rule.

6 This order may be modified consistent with the Court's continual assessment of  
7 the needs of the community, as well as the recommendations of public health officials  
8 and directives of the Washington State Supreme Court.

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10 DATE: 11/16/2020

  
11 JUDGE ERIC C. BIGGAR  
12 Presiding Judge  
13 Douglas County District Court  
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