

FILED

2020 MAR 12 PM 3:20

GRAYS HARBOR CO.  
KYM FOSTER  
COUNTY CLERK

IN THE SUPERIOR COURT OF WASHINGTON  
IN AND FOR GRAYS HARBOR COUNTY

IN THE MATTER OF EMERGENCY RESPONSE TO  
A THREAT TO PUBLIC HEALTH

**GENERAL ORDER 2020-1**

**EMERGENCY ORDER RE:  
PUBLIC HEALTH**

Pursuant to General Rule (GR) 21(a), the Presiding Judge of this court has issued this emergency order on this date in response to the public health emergency arising from the coronavirus (COVID-19), which was declared a pandemic by the World Health Organization on March 11, 2020 and which affects the operations of the Grays Harbor County Superior Court.

IT IS HEREBY ORDERED as follows:

1. All jury panels scheduled for duty between March 16 and March 27, 2020, are excused from duty.
2. All cases scheduled for a jury trial between March 16 and March 27, 2020, will be continued and rescheduled for trial on April 28, 2020.
3. As to criminal jury trials, the court finds good cause, pursuant to CrR 3.3(f), the continuances resulting from this order are required in the administration of justice as the court has a reduced ability to obtain an adequate number of jurors for trials due to the public health emergency and the high level of concern of the citizens of Grays Harbor County.
4. Such continuances will not prejudice any defendant in the presentation of his or her defense. Each case impacted will, in addition to this order, be addressed on a case by case basis.

- 1 5. The time periods of the continuances set forth in this General Order are excluded  
2 periods for the purposes of computing time for trial, pursuant to See CrR 3.3(f)(2).  
3 6. The criminal motions docket in Juvenile Court, which is regularly scheduled for  
4 Thursday at 8:30 a.m., is suspended until April 2, 2020, with the exception of  
5 hearings for "pre-trial management", which shall be heard as presently scheduled.  
6 Any fact-finding hearings scheduled for March 19 and March 26, 2020 will remain  
7 scheduled for those dates.  
8 7. The dependency case docket, which is regularly scheduled for Wednesdays at 9:00  
9 a.m., is suspended until April 1, 2020, subject to the exceptions set forth in the next  
10 sentence. The court will conduct shelter care hearings and will hear motions of an  
11 emergent nature, if approved at least 48 hours in advance of the hearing date by  
12 Judge David Mistachkin. Dependency fact-finding hearings will proceed as scheduled  
13 during the period of docket suspension. The court finds good cause for the  
14 suspension of the dependency dockets and the delays resulting from this  
15 suspension, and orders that all timelines for the timely disposition of dependency  
16 cases are stayed during this period of suspension.  
17 8. At this time, no other dockets or hearings will be suspended, continued or impacted.

18 DATED this 12<sup>th</sup> day of March, 2020.

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DAVID L. EDWARDS  
PRESIDING JUDGE