OCEAN SHORES MUNICIPAL COURT OCEAN SHORES, GRAYS HARBOR COUNTY, WASHINGTON

IN THE MATTER OF EMERGENCY RESPONSE TO A THREAT TO PUBLIC HEALTH ADMINISTRATIVE ORDER 2020-1

WHEREAS, the outbreak of the Coronavirus (COVID-19) was declared a pandemic by the World Health Organization on March 12, 2020, and

WHEREAS, the Governor of the State of Washington declared the outbreak of COVID-19 to be a public health emergency in all counties in the State of Washington on February 29, 2020, and

WHEREAS, the severity of the public health emergency has worsened causing the Governor to implement different means to protect the public including social distancing, and limiting public gatherings so as not to exceed fifty persons, and

WHEREAS, this public health emergency and the restrictions imposed by the Governor affects the operations of the Ocean Shores Municipal Court,

NOW THEREFORE, Pursuant to General Rule (GR) 21(a), and Washington State Supreme Court Order 25700-B-602,

IT IS HEREBY ORDERED as follows:

1. All criminal hearings except for charges requiring a mandatory appearance (DUI/DV) shall be continued until May 13, 2020.

2. All hearings for mandatory appearance matters shall be scheduled for a special setting by the Court Administrator.

3. Motions for urgent matters may be scheduled, but **must** be approved in advance by the Judge.

4. For all hearings the only persons allowed in the courtroom in addition to the Judge and court personnel will be the defense attorney and his or her client and the City Attorney.

5. All jury and bench trials shall be suspended until June 2020.

6. The time period for matters continued or suspended in this Administrative Order are excluded periods for the purposes of computing time for trial, pursuant to CR 3.3(f)(2).

7. Continuing or suspending a matter will not prejudice any defendant in the presentation of his or her defense. Each case impacted will, in addition to this Administrative Order, be addressed on a case by case basis.

8. All civil infractions hearings are suspended until further order of the Court.

Defendants may mitigate or contest an infraction by mail pursuant to IRLJ 2.4(b)(4).

9. Based upon the public health emergency existing in Grays Harbor County and throughout the State of Washington, the Court finds good cause for this Administrative Order and any time limitations related to the matters continued or suspended shall stayed during the period of continuance or suspension.

DATED this 17 day of March, 2020.

C. SCOTT-SAGE, Judge) Ocean Shores Municipal Court