

DES MOINES MUNICIPAL COURT
KING COUNTY, WASHINGTON

IN THE MATTER OF:

Emergency Response to a) ADMINISTRATIVE ORDER
Threat to Public Health)
) NO. 20-03
)

WHEREAS, on February 29, 2020, Governor Jay Inslee signed a Proclamation declaring a State of Emergency exists in all counties in the State of Washington due to the number of confirmed cases of COVID-19 in the state and directed that the plans and procedures of the Washington State comprehensive Emergency Management Plan be implemented; and

WHEREAS, on March 1, 2020, King County Executive Dow Constantine signed a Proclamation of Emergency due to the number of confirmed cases of COVID-19 in King County thus enabling King County government to take extraordinary measures; and

WHEREAS, the Chief Justice of the State Supreme Court has issued an emergency order in response to the public health emergency that affects operations of trial courts in Washington State on March 4, 2020; 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;

WHEREAS, on March 5, 2020, Des Moines City Manager Michael Matthias signed a Proclamation of Emergency declaring that the increased number of confirmed cases of COVID-19 constitute a civil emergency;

NOW, THEREFORE, IT IS HEREBY ORDERED:

1. Operation of IRLJ 2.6 governing the scheduling of in-person court hearings on infractions is hereby suspended until further Order of the Court.

2. Effective immediately, all requests for in-person mitigation or contested court hearings on civil infractions shall be scheduled for a hearing by written statement pursuant to IRLJ 3.5.

3. Unless a ticket is in default, Court clerks are hereby authorized to reduce fines (or dismiss, where noted) upon request for the violations identified in table 1-A and 1-B below; once the request is granted, no further hearing will be scheduled and the defendant must pay the reduced fine within 30 days or enter into a payment plan with the court within that 30 day period. Requests made pursuant to this section for a dismissal or reduction in fine may be made in person, or submitted in writing by email or first class mail.

Table 1-A
Administrative Reduction of Fines for Traffic Infractions

CHARGE	REDUCED PENALTY
No Valid Operator's License with Identification (RCW 46.20.015)	Provide the court with proof of valid driver's license: fine reduced to \$150
No Valid License on Person (RCW 46.20.017)	Provide the court with proof of valid driver's license: charge dismissed
Failure to Provide Proof of Motor Vehicle Insurance (RCW 46.30.020)	Provide the court with proof of motor vehicle insurance in force on the date of the violation: charge dismissed with \$25 cancellation fee (RCW 46.30.020(2)) Provide the court with proof of current motor vehicle insurance (even if not insured on date of violation): fine reduced to \$150
Vehicle Registration Violation (Expired less than two months) (RCW 46.16A.030)	Provide the court with proof of current vehicle registration and this is defendant's first offense: charge dismissed Provide the court with proof of current vehicle registration and this is defendant's second or subsequent offense: fine reduced to \$90
Vehicle Registration Violation (expired over two months) (RCW 46.16A.030)	Provide the court with proof of current vehicle registration: fine reduced to \$100
Equipment Violation (RCW 46.37.040, et. seq.)	Provide the court with proof of repair / compliance and the charge will be dismissed

Table 1-B
Administrative Reduction of Fines for Automated Traffic Safety Camera Violations

CHARGE	REDUCED PENALTY
Red Light Camera Violations (RCW 46.61.050(1))	Fine reduced to: \$85

Speeding in School Zone – Camera Violation (up to 10 mph over speed limit) (RCW 46.61.440)	First offense, fine reduced to: \$125
Speeding in School Zone – Camera Ticket (10 mph over or more over the speed limit) (RCW 46.61.440)	Requires hearing by written statement

DATED this 11th day of March, 2020



Presiding Judge