

TUKWILA MUNICIPAL COURT
KING COUNTY, WASHINGTON

IN THE MATTER OF THE RESPONSE BY TUKWILA COURT TO THE PUBLIC HEALTH EMERGENCY IN WASHINGTON STATE

ADMINISTRATIVE ORDER NO: 2020-1

WHEREAS, the Washington State Supreme Court Chief Justice 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; and

WHEREAS, the City of Tukwila issued a formal declaration of emergency on March 9, 2020 recognizing the health, safety, and welfare of Tukwila residents, visitors, and staff is of the utmost importance of the City;

NOW, THEREFORE, IT IS HEREBY ORDERED EFFECTIVE MARCH 17, 2020 UNTIL FURTHER ORDER OF THE COURT:

1. COURTROOM AND COURT CLERK'S OFFICE: The courtroom, court clerk's office, front counters, and all court facilities are closed to the public unless court is in session. Court hosted marriage ceremonies are suspended indefinitely. Payments will continue to be accepted online and by mail. Court correspondence from litigants will be accepted via email and U.S. Mail. Contact the court at (206) 433-1840 or court@tukwilawa.gov to determine if the court is open, rescheduled court dates, and/or for any additional information.

2. CRIMINAL MATTERS:

(a) Effective immediately, criminal case filings will be set for arraignment after April 30, 2020. Upon written request of the City Attorney, the court will accept and schedule for arraignment in the regular

1 course of business cases involving threats to public safety, including but not limited to alcohol-related driving
2 offenses (DUI, Physical Control, and Negligent Driving 1st Degree), Assault 4, Harassment, Reckless
3 Endangerment, cases with a Domestic Violence designation (DV) and others on a case-by-case basis.

4 (a) Out-of-custody defendants arraigned during this period shall, absent extraordinary
5 circumstances, have their pre-trial hearings and motions set after April 30, 2020 and the time period between the
6 court date shall be excluded from speedy trial calculation. Unless the court identifies an exception, all currently
7 scheduled out-of-custody hearings will be set to a date after April 30, 2020.

8 (b) If the court sets bail, in-custody defendants will continue to be heard via video court
9 for all types of hearings and/or set for transport on a case-by-case basis. Video hearings will continue to be
10 broadcast to the public either in the courtroom or online if the court or City imposes greater attendance restrictions.
11 The court will hold video hearings twice a week.

12 (c) The court reserves the right to maintain or schedule arraignments, pretrial hearings,
13 bench trials, or review/revocation hearings between today's date and April 30, 2020.

14 (d) Jury trials are suspended until the June term. The next readiness/trial status court date
15 is tentatively scheduled for May 20, 2020.

16 (e) A defendant who contacts the court by email or telephone seeking to quash an
17 outstanding warrant shall be directed to contact their attorney. If pro-se, the defendant may request the warrant be
18 quashed by telephone or email and must update their mailing address. The court will consider all motions to quash
19 warrants ex-parte in chambers.

20 (f) All written motions to recall DV No Contact Orders will be set on a regularly
21 scheduled calendar designated for the defendant and their attorney or corresponding pro se calendar but all parties
22 are not to appear in person. The court will consider the motion ex-parte and in chambers. A written order will be
23 sent via email or U.S. Mail within three business days.

24 3. CIVIL CASES:

25 (a) The court will schedule all requests for infraction, tow hearings, financial
26 reconsideration motions, and motions to vacate or delete after April 30, 2020. A party may file a written motion
27 requesting an earlier hearing and must specifically outline the urgent need. The court will maintain the current civil
28 calendar dates and schedule the approved quick set cases for "by-mail" hearings during this time period and all

1 parties' appearances are waived. All currently scheduled infraction hearings will be rescheduled to a date after April
2 30, 2020.

3 (b) This order does not preclude emergency DV protection order requests and hearings if
4 the court is open and court team members on-site.

5 4. PROBATION:

6 (a) DV MRT classes are suspended until further notice. Individual or small group
7 meetings may be held in a manner consistent with the City's health and safety guidelines and at the discretion of the
8 probation director.

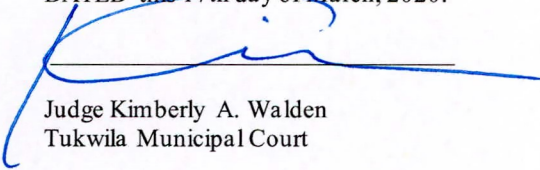
9 (b) Defendants required to check in with probation/jail alternatives shall do so by
10 telephone or via mail per their probation officer's direction.

11 (c) Court ordered community service is suspended until further order of the court. Other
12 affirmative conditions must be maintained unless waived/suspended by the court/probation. Defendants must contact
13 probation or the court if they are unable to comply with other conditions (classes, treatment, etc.) due to provider
14 closures/cancellation or illness.

15 10. GENERAL REQUIREMENTS: Everyone entering the court may be subject to a non-invasive
16 safety screening process. Anyone who refuses to be screened or deemed to exhibit symptoms of illness may be
17 ordered to exit the building. Following the screening process, all persons entering the court area are required to use
18 hand sanitizer and shall adhere to, when practicable, the recommended social distance guidelines by health experts.
19 The court will also enforce room capacity mandates. If you are ill and/or experiencing flu-like symptoms, do not
20 come to court, notify your attorney or the court via telephone or email, and update your mailing address.

21 This Order may be amended, extended, or withdrawn in order to address the on-going public
22 health emergency.

23 DATED this 17th day of March, 2020.

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25 Judge Kimberly A. Walden
26 Tukwila Municipal Court
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