

IN THE BREMERTON MUNICIPAL COURT
IN AND FOR KITSAP COUNTY, WASHINGTON

Judicial Order)
Re: The Matter of:) No. 2020-04
EMERGENCY RESPONSE) **Emergency Administrative**
TO THE COVID-19 VIRUS) **Order**
THREAT TO)
PUBLIC HEALTH)
)
)
)
)
)
)

THIS MATTER COMES BEFORE THE COURT ON THE PUBLIC HEALTH EMERGENCY IN THE CITY OF BREMERTON, COUNTY OF KITSAP.

THIS ORDER SUPPLEMENTS 2020-01 EMERGENCY ADMINISTRATIVE ORDER DATED 3/18/2020, AND 2020-03, DATED APRIL 22, 2020.

On 2-29-2020, Governor Jay Inslee declared a state of emergency due to the public health emergency posed by the spread of the coronavirus (COVID-19).

On 3-4-2020, Chief Justice Debra Stephens of the Washington State Supreme Court adopted Order No. 25700-B-602, granting emergency authority upon all Washington Courts to adopt, modify, and/or suspend court rules and orders, and to take further actions concerning court operations, as warranted to address the current state of emergency.

On March 12, 2020 Bremerton Mayor Greg Wheeler proclaimed an emergency within Bremerton, encouraging all local government agencies and institutions to immediately implement any and all proactive measures to help slow/stop the spread of this virus.

On 3-16-2020, Governor Jay Inslee imposed additional restrictions prohibiting gatherings of more than 50 people statewide.

As of March 17, 2020 the Kitsap Public Health Department had identified at least 7 individuals in this county infected with the COVID19 virus, including one in Bremerton. That department and the Center for Disease Control have identified COVID-19 as a worldwide pandemic and have recommended we take any measures necessary to limit exposure to and help stop any further spread of this virus.

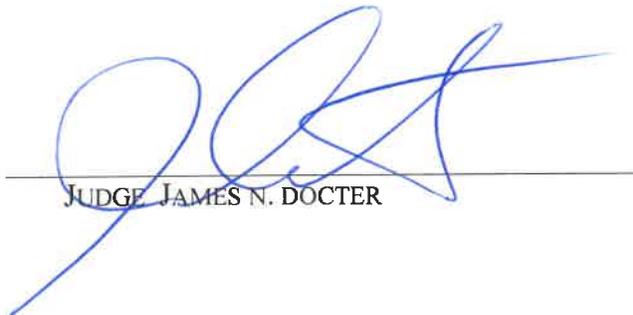
On 3-18-2020 Chief Justice Debra Stephens of the Washington State Supreme Court adopted Order No. 25700-B-606. This Order was revised on April 22, 2020.

NOW, THEREFORE, IT IS HEREBY ORDERED:

1. Starting on June 1st, the Bremerton Municipal Court will allow public access, but the public is strongly encouraged to participate via Zoom, or watch court on YouTube if feasible. Anyone seeking to enter the courthouse will be screened for flu like symptoms. Anyone exhibiting flu like symptoms will be denied access, and their hearing will be reset.
2. While we are experiencing a health crisis, the court will encourage hearings to be held by video conferencing aka Zoom, or by telephone, when feasible. All hearings will be streamed live on YouTube, and the public is encouraged to access the court on YouTube.
3. Social distancing measures have been implemented, and anyone in the courthouse will be expected to abide by these measures. Anyone violating these measures is subject to immediate removal.
4. The BMC anticipates hearing jury trials beginning in July, 2020. These details will be forthcoming.
5. Court staff will be available by phone daily (M-F) from 8:00-5:00.
6. The Courthouse will be closed daily from 12:00 pm – 1:00 pm.

THIS ORDER WILL BE IN EFFECT UNTIL FURTHER NOTICE. IT IS SUBJECT TO CHANGE. It shall be posted on the city's website.

DATED this 29th of May, 2020.



JUDGE JAMES N. DOCTER