

**Municipal Court of Washington
For City of Chehalis**

IN THE MATTER OF PUBLIC
HEALTH EMERGENCY,

No. 2020-02

AMENDED ADMINISTRATIVE ORDER

This Administrative Order is being issued to provide an updated change in the prior order for Chehalis Municipal Court in response to a current pandemic outbreak of the Coronavirus 2019 (COVID-19). The Governor of the State of Washington has continued the state of emergency and has banned events that does not have social distancing. On March 4, 2020, the Washington Supreme Court adopted Order No. 25700-B-602 granting emergency authority to the judges of the state of Washington to adopt, modify and suspend court rules and orders and to take further actions concerning court operations as warranted to address the current public health emergency. This order is being done to reflect continuing changes to court hearings.

Now, therefore, it is hereby:

Ordered that effective immediately and until further Order of the court:

1. The court office and the courtroom is continued to be closed to the public for the time being. Court staff remains available by phone or email.
2. All criminal jury trials shall be continued until August, 2020, with the date for the trial to be set as determined by the court.
3. All time for trial rules in CrRLJ 3.3 are suspended. All other court rules are hereby suspended until July 1, 2020.
4. Subject to a written exparte request to the court showing good cause for a hearing date to be accelerated from the continued hearing date, the court takes the following emergency actions:
 - A. The following criminal matters are continued:

ADMINISTRATIVE ORDER

1. Arraignments for all charges will be set by telephone hearings or by zoom hearings. To effectuate these continuances, CrRLJ 4.1 shall be suspended. These cases will be continued for a date set by the court.

2. Hearings for in custody defendants will continue weekly. All other defendants will be rescheduled as needed.

3. Motions to vacate warrants, ex parte motions, requests for cancellation of No Contact Orders and other administrative requests for action will be heard ex parte in chambers. A defendant, who contacts the court by email or by telephone, seeking to quash a warrant, may have the request granted as long as the defendant provides his or her current mailing address.

4. Bench Warrants may not be issued for any defendant who fails to appear for any hearing in the next few months, except for extraordinary circumstances.

5. Litigants are encouraged to contact the Court concerning their dates and any request for action.

6. Case by case exception to these orders may be ordered for non-jury matters at the discretion of the Court and after consultation with counsel.

B. Traffic infractions:

1. Traffic infraction cases will be continued to the month of August, 2020, or thereafter as may be warranted to address the threat to public health. Ex parte hearings by written documents may be heard by the court at the request of the litigant.

2. Mitigation hearings may be heard ex parte with documents filed or by mail.

Dated May 1, 2020



Judge

Print Name: DALE A. McBETH