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NORTH DISTRICT COURT  
OF WASHINGTON COUNTY OF PACIFIC

IN RE OF:

COURT OPERATIONS UNDER THE  
EXIGENT CIRCUMSTANCES CREATED  
BY COVID-19 AND RELATED  
CORONAVIRUS

GENERAL ORDER 1-20

This General Order being issued in response to the recent outbreak of Coronavirus Disease 2019 (COVID-19) in Western Washington, which has been home to the first reported domestic case of the disease and some of the first significant community impacts from school and business closures.

Given the significant number of identified and projected cases of COVID-19 in this State and the severity of risk posed to the public, and given the public health recommendations from public health authorities, it is hereby ORDERED that, effective Monday, March 16, 2020:

- 1) Any civil or criminal court matters scheduled for an in-Court appearance before this court, including any associated deadlines, are CONTINUED pending further Order of the Court;
- 2) With regard to criminal matter, due to the Court's reduced ability to obtain an adequate spectrum of jurors and the effect of the above public health recommendations on the availability of counsel and Court staff to be present in the courtroom, the time period of the continuances implemented by the General Order will be excluded under the Speedy Trial Act, as the Court

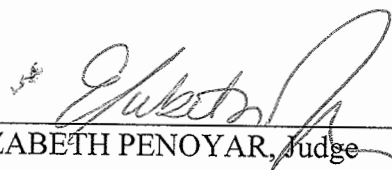
1 specifically finds that the ends of justice served by ordering the continuances  
2 outweigh the best interests of the public and any defendant's right to a speedy  
3 trial, under the constitution and court rules.

- 4
- 5 3) Case-by exceptions to the continuances provided herein may be ordered for  
6 non-jury matters at the discretion of the Court after consultation with counsel;
- 7 4) This Order does not affect the Court's consideration of civil or criminal  
8 motions that can be resolved without oral argument.

9 The Court shall remain open. Staff in the Clerk's Office will be available, mail will be  
10 received, and intake desks remain open for filings. The public is encouraged to continue  
11 utilizing Court services while following all applicable public health guidelines.  
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13 The Court will vacate or amend this General Order no later than March 31, 2020.  
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15 Dated this 6<sup>th</sup> day of March 2020.  
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20 ELIZABETH PENOYAR, Judge  
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