

IN THE MUNICIPAL COURT
FOR THE CITY OF FIRCREST
FOR THE CITY OF RUSTON

COURT OPERATIONS UNDER THE EXIGENT)
CIRCUMSTANCES CREATED BY COVID-19)
AND RELATED CORONAVIRUS) ADMINISTRATIVE ORDER
)
) No. 2020-02
)
Amending Order 2020-01

WHEREAS, the Chief Justice of the Supreme Court of the State of Washington 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.

WHEREAS, the public health emergency as declared by Washington State Governor Jay Inslee on February 29, 2020.

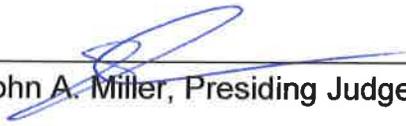
WHEREAS, the Washington State Supreme Court has adopted Order No. 25700-B-602, granting emergency authority to this court to adopt, modify, and suspend court rules and orders, and to take further actions concerning court operations, as warranted to address the current state of emergency.

NOW, THEREFORE, IT IS HEREBY ORDERED:

1. All court rules are suspended until May 31, 2020.
2. All contested civil infractions are continued to the month of May 2020 or thereafter as may be warranted to address the threat to the public health.
3. Due to the court's reduced ability to obtain an adequate spectrum of jurors and the effect of public health recommendations and availability of counsel and court staff to be present in the courtroom, jury trials are suspended through May 31, 2020. Jury trials will be reset subsequent to that date by future court order. The period of the continuances implemented by this Administrative Order will be excluded for calculation of speedy trial as the court specifically finds this to be an excluded period under CrRLJ 3.3(e).
4. All criminal cases now pending are continued to the month of May 2020 or thereafter as may be warranted to address the threat to public health.

5. The Court reserves the right to maintain or schedule arraignments, pretrial hearings, or reviews/revocation hearings between March 17, 2020 and May 31, 2020, in cases involving threats to public safety, including but not limited to domestic violence offenses and driving while under the influence/physical control.
6. Notice for future dates for all cases delayed by this order will be mailed to the parties via U.S. mail. Any party needing to update a mailing address should contact the Court at (253) 564-8922.
7. All vehicle impounds will be handled directly through the tow company. FMC 9.10.020 is suspended until further Order of the Court.
8. The Court Clerk's office will be closed to the public beginning 2:00 p.m. March 17, 2020. All business with the Clerk's office staff will be conducted telephonically, or by U.S. mail until further Order of the Court. Payments and correspondence may be left in the Court's drop box. Payments may also be made on-line or via U.S. Mail.
9. Court employees are following guidance from the Tacoma-Pierce County Health Department to protect individual health. Employees and Court participants should follow these recommendations while in the Fircrest City Hall:
 - a. Increase hand washing
 - b. Respiratory hygiene and cough etiquette – cover a cough or a sneeze
 - c. Keep distance from others – more than six feet, if possible
 - d. Frequently clean and disinfect surfaces
 - e. Remain home during times of illness
10. The court will hear in custody cases and other emergency matters as necessary to preserve defendants' constitutional rights.
11. This order may be amended or withdrawn as warranted to address the on-going public health emergency.

DATED this 17th day of March, 2020.



John A. Miller, Presiding Judge