

IN THE MUNICIPAL COURT SERVING
CITY OF LAKEWOOD
CITY OF UNIVERSITY PLACE
TOWN OF STEILACOOM
CITY OF DUPONT

IN THE MATTER OF) ADMINISTRATIVE ORDER
Emergency Response to Public Health Threat) NO. 20-02
(Coronavirus/COVID-19))

WHEREAS, The 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. 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;

WHEREAS on March 16, 2020 the Governor imposed additional restrictions prohibiting gatherings of more than 50 people and shut down restaurants, bars and entertainment and recreational facilities within the State of Washington due to the danger of continued spread of the virus and the increasing danger the virus presents to the health care system in the region, as well as directing all public and private schools within the State of Washington be closed from March 17th through April 24, 2020;

WHEREAS as of the date of this Order, there have been 29 confirmed cases of COVID-19 in Pierce County, over 769 confirmed cases and over 42 deaths in the State of Washington from COVID-19. Given the significant number of identified and projected cases of COVID-19 in the area, the severity of risk posed to the public, and the above public health recommendations from local public health authorities,

NOW, THEREFORE, IT IS HEREBY ORDERED:

1. Effective Wednesday, March 18, 2020 and continuing through Thursday, April 30, 2020:

With the exceptions set forth below, all currently scheduled court hearings will be postponed and rescheduled by the Court to a future date to be determined.

The exceptions include:

- a. All in-custody matters. The court will operate in-custody calendars on its normal schedule;
 - b. All hearings set to determine compliance with orders of pre-trial release, including, but not limited to: surrender of weapons, installation of ignition interlock and compliance with 24/7 alcohol monitoring;
 - c. The attorney contested hearings infraction calendar may be handled by submitting agreed dispositions to the court via OCourt;
 - d. Infraction hearings by mail;
 - e. Any hearing set upon judicial determination of an emergent need.
2. Effective Tuesday, March 17, 2020 and ending at a date to be determined by future court order:
All probation appointments will be conducted telephonically. It is the responsibility of defendants to call the probation office at the scheduled appointment time.
3. No jurors will be summonsed for the April jury term. At this time, matters scheduled for the April readiness calendar will remain so scheduled. Any delay in time for trial will be deemed an excluded period per CrRLJ 3.3.
4. To effectuate these continuances implemented by this Administrative Order, CrRLJ 3.3, the Time for Trial Rule for criminal matters, CrRLJ 4.1 time for arraignment and time for hearing on civil infractions under IRLJ 2.6 are hereby suspended. The Court specifically finds the ends of justice served by the continuance outweighs the best interest of the public and defendant's right to a speedy trial due to the unforeseen and unavoidable circumstances caused by the above enunciated public health emergency.
5. Notices 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 by email at citycourt@cityoflakewood.us, by fax at 253-512-2267 or by phone at 253-512-2258.

DATED this 16th day of March, 2020.



Susan Adams
Presiding Judge