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PIERCE COUNTY DISTRICT COURT, STATE OF WASHINGTON

In Re

COURT OPERATIONS UNDER THE  
EXIGENT CIRCUMSTANCES CREATED  
BY PUBLIC HEALTH EMERGENCY IN  
WASHINGTON STATE

GENERAL ORDER  
NO. 2020-09  
(REVISING ORDER NO 2020-03)

WHEREAS On February 29, 2020, Washington State Governor Jay Inslee declared a state of emergency due to the public health emergency posed by the spread of the coronavirus (COVID – 19).

WHEREAS on March 4, 2020 Chief Justice Debra Stephens of the Washington State Supreme Court adopted Order No. 25700-B-602, granting emergency authority to the Presiding Judges of 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 public health emergency; and

WHEREAS the Governor has issued a proclamation closing all restaurants, bars, entertainment and recreational centers, among many other businesses, which may

1 cause many of our defendants to lose employment and out of respect for the economic  
2 hardship the current public health emergency has created; and

3 WHEREAS Pierce County is currently in Phase 2 of the Safe Start plan, which  
4 allows restaurants to operate at no more than 50% capacity, and a number of other  
5 businesses are not yet allowed to open; and

6  
7 WHEREAS on June 1, 2020 this Court signed General Order 2020-08, which  
8 authorized ongoing virtual hearings and postponed jury trials to begin as of August 3,  
9 2020; and

10  
11 WHEREAS the court is aware of the economic hardship of many citizens due to  
12 the COVID-19 pandemic. IT IS HEREBY ORDERED, that

13 1) Effective Tuesday, March 17, 2020, all due dates for any payments due to  
14 the court are extended until September 1, 2020.

15 2) No referrals to collections for past due payments until September 1, 2020.

16 Dated this 26<sup>th</sup> day of June, 2020.

17  
18 /s/ Judy Rae Jasprica

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20 JUDY RAE JASPRICA  
21 PRESIDNG JUDGE