

IN THE SUPERIOR COURT
FOR THE COUNTY OF SKAGIT

IN THE MATTER OF) ADMINISTRATIVE ORDER
EMERGENCY RESPONSE TO COVID-19) NO. 20-4
OUTBREAK)

WHEREAS, An identified public health emergency exists due to the current outbreak of the Novel Corona virus which emergency has been previously identified in this Court's Emergency Administrative Order 20-3; and

WHEREAS, the Governor of Washington has issued Proclamation 20-25 requiring persons to stay at home unless they are performing an essential service; and

WHEREAS, the Presiding Judge of Skagit County Superior has determined that all hearings that are not deemed critical should be continued;

NOW, THEREFORE, IT IS HEREBY ORDERED:

1. **EFFECTIVE DATE** This Order becomes effective upon signing and shall remain in effect for so long as the Governor keeps the stay at home proclamation in effect. Currently the proclamation is in effect through midnight on April 6, 2020.
2. **RELATIONSHIP TO EMERGENCY ADMINISTRATIVE ORDER 20-3** For so long as this Order is in effect, it will supercede Administrative Order 20-3 with respect to matters set forth herein. In all other respects Administrative Order 20-3 shall be interpreted as supplementary to this Order
3. **CRITICAL HEARINGS** The following hearings are deemed critical:
 - In custody criminal (including juvenile)
 - Arraignment
 - Bail hearings/release hearings
 - Plea and sentence
 - Competency hearings
 - Any other emergency Motion with the consent of a Judicial Officer

Civil

- Temporary Protection Orders (DVPO, VAPO, SAPO, ERPO)
- Immediate restraining orders where domestic violence is alleged
- Shelter care hearings
- Involuntary treatment hearings
- Guardianship hearings
- Any other emergency Motion with the consent of a Judicial Officer

During the term of this order only critical hearings will be conducted.

4. **TELEPHONIC HEARINGS** Except as set forth herein, all hearings conducted under this Order shall be conducted telephonically in the manner set forth in Emergency Administrative Order 20-3. The Court will post a daily calendar on its website. At the present time it is contemplated that in-custody juvenile matters will be heard daily, Monday through Friday at 1:00 pm followed by Civil matters (Protection Orders, Immediate Restraining Orders, and Guardianship) at 1:30 pm. Criminal matters will be heard daily at the Community Justice Center (Jail) at 2:30 pm. Criminal matters will not be exclusively telephonic although the Court will make telephonic appearance available. Involuntary Treatment hearings will be heard on Tuesdays, Wednesdays and Fridays at 10:00 am. Shelter Care hearings will be held at 9:30 am on two days after the child or children have been taken into custody.
5. **SCHEDULED PROTECTION ORDER HEARINGS** During the term of this order, the Court will not be conducting its regularly scheduled Protection Order calendar. Accordingly, for such matters the Court will issue orders continuing all temporary orders of protection two weeks and continuing any scheduled hearing dates on protection order matters for two weeks. The Court will similarly reissue and continue all pending immediate restraining order matters. All other pending Civil and Domestic law hearing dates for matters not set forth in Paragraph three above will continued in two week increments.
6. **SUSPENSION OF RULES** This Order modifies or suspends any and all court rules, both Local Court Rules and State Court Rules which are inconsistent with the terms set forth herein.

DATED this 25th day of March, 2020.



David A. Syaren
Presiding Judge

CONTINUITY OF OPERATIONS COURT CALENDARS

Superior Court Emergency Order No. 4

Monday - Friday

1:00 PM: Juvenile in-custody matters only.

1:30 PM Civil Cases – emergent only – see Emergency Order No. 4

2:30 PM Criminal Calendar to be held at the Jail – see Emergency Order No. 4

Tuesday, Wednesday, Friday

10:00 AM ITA Calendar

As needed: Shelter Care 9:30 AM to be scheduled 2 days after pick up. The Court and the Skagit County Office of Assigned Counsel must be notified 24+ hours in advance of the hearing.