District Court of the State of Washington
for Snohomish County

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PRESIDING JUDGE
DOUGLAS J. FAIR

COURT COMMISSIONER
RICK S. LEO

ADMINISTRATOR
KATHRYN F. KOEHLER

Administrative Order 20 – 05

Snohomish County District Court
Emergency Order

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). On March 4, 2020 Chief Justice Debra Stephens of the Washington State Supreme Court adopted Order No. 25700-8-602, granting emergency authority upon all 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."

On March 11, 2020 the Governor imposed additional restrictions prohibiting gatherings of more than 250 people within King, Snohomish, and Pierce County 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;

On March 13, 2020 the Governor ordered the closure of all schools in the State and on March 16, 2020 ordered closure of all bars, restaurants and clubs in the State in addition to limiting gatherings to no more than 50 people.

On March 18, 2020 the Supreme Court issued Court Order 25700-B-606. On March 19, 2020 the Supreme Court issued Corrected Order 25700-B-607 and on March 20, 2020 issued Amended Order 25700-B-607.

Accordingly, pursuant to the authority given this Court through Washington State Supreme Court Orders 25700-B-602 and 607 and authority granted to the Presiding Judge of the Snohomish County District Court pursuant to GR 29, This Emergency Order is effective March 20, 2020, and shall remain in effect unless renewed, modified or rescinded by the Snohomish County District Court Presiding Judge. All Divisions of the Snohomish County District Court will remain open, pending further Order of the Court.

Order

1. **Changes to Protection Order and Compliance Hearings**
The following matters will continue to be heard in all Divisions:
(a) All civil protection order hearings for Unlawful Harassment, Domestic Violence, Stalking, Sexual Assault and Extreme Risk Protection Orders will be calendared at 8:30 AM.
(b) All compliance hearings pursuant to RCW 10.21.055 and weapons surrender orders pursuant to Chapter 9.41. RCW will be calendared at 9:00 AM.
(c) All ex parte petitions will be determined based solely on the petition unless otherwise directed by a Judicial Officer.
(d) All hearings will be conducted telephonically unless it is not possible. The petitioner and respondent must provide a phone number, if possible, where they can be reached at the time of the hearing.
(e) The granting of an ex parte order is, by definition, an emergency as contemplated by Supreme Court Amended Order 25700-B-607, section 3.

2. **Criminal Hearings**
(a) The Time for Trial provisions of CrRLJ 3.3 are suspended until further Order of the Court pursuant to Supreme Court Orders 25700-B-602 and 607.
(b) Arraignments: All arraignments will be continued until after 24 April 2020. Time for Arraignment provisions of CrRLJ 4.1 are suspended until further Order of the Court pursuant to Supreme Court Order 25700-B-602 and 607. All direct file cases by cities that contract with the District Court will be continued to a date after 24 April 2020 and the court will summons the defendant for the new date.
(c) Motions: All criminal motions currently calendared, with the exceptions noted below, are stricken from the calendar and may be re-noted after 24 April 2020. The following hearings are determined to be necessary and may be heard at 9:00 AM in all Divisions subject to a maximum calendar limitation of ten hearings:
Motions to quash warrants.
Motions regarding bail.
Motions for TRO from custody.
Motions to review pre-trial release conditions.
Any other Motion with the consent of a Judicial Officer.
(i) All hearings are to be held telephonically unless it is not possible. The moving party and the responding party must supply a phone number, if possible, where they can be reached at the time of the hearing.
(ii) CrRLJ 8.1(c) still applies to all hearings for out of custody matters. The court will accept agreed orders in lieu of a hearing.
(iii) The Court waives the $50 walk-in warrant quash fee for all warrants below $5,000.
(d) Readiness: Pre-trial Readiness matters will be stricken and are continued until after 24 April 2020. The Court will send out new dates on all matters that have been struck pursuant to this order.
(e) Jury Trials: All jury trials currently calendared are continued to a trial term after 24 April 2020.
(f) Probation Review Hearing: All probation review hearing currently calendared are continued to a date after 24 April 2020.

3. **Traffic Infraction Hearings**
All traffic infraction hearings currently calendared in response to a defendant's request for a personal appearance are continued to a date after 24 April 2020. New hearing notices will be sent by the Court. Hearings currently calendared for appearance on written statements pursuant to IRLJ 3.5 will continue to be heard. Time for Hearing provisions of IRLJ 2.6 are suspended until further Order of the Court pursuant to Supreme Court Orders 25700-B-602 and 607.

4. **Civil Proceedings**
Civil Motions, Change of Name, Small Claim Mediation Hearings, Small Claim Trials, Vehicle Impound Hearings and all other civil proceedings not otherwise addressed in this Order that are currently noted for hearing before 24 April 2020 are continued. Civil Motions may be re-noted by the moving party after 24 April 2020. All other civil matters will be re-set for hearing after 24 April 2020 by the Court.

5. **Jail Calendars and Mental Health Court**
(a) This Order does not apply Mental Health Court. Judicial Officers hearing the Mental Health Court calendars may make such Orders as are necessary to protect the health and safety of all participants and the public.
(b) Jail calendars are subject to Supreme Court Amended Order 25700-B-607.
(c) No jail transports to Cascade, Everett, Evergreen, or South Division will occur absent the approval of a Judicial Officer.

6. **Rules**
Any Snohomish County District Court Local Rules or State Court Rules that are inconsistent with the provisions of this Administrative Order are suspended during the effective time of this Order.

7. **Other**
(a) For purposes of this Order, 'Judicial Officer' means a Snohomish County District Court Judge or Snohomish County District Court Commissioner.
(b) Any civil or criminal matter may be heard upon the approval of a Judicial Officer.
(c) This Administrative Order is subject to Supreme Court Amended Order 25700-B-607 and any provisions in conflict with Amended Order 25700-B-607 are superseded.

Dated this 20th day of March, 2020

Judge Douglas J. Fair
Presiding Judge
Snohomish County District Court