IN THE DISTICT COURT OF THE STATE OF WASHINGTON IN AND FOR THE COURTY OF STEVENS

IN THE MATTER OF EMERGENCY)	ADMINISTRATIVE ORDER
RESPONSE TO PUBLIC HEALTH)	
THREAT)	NO. 2020-3

WHEREAS, the governor of the State of Washington has declared a state of emergency due to the public health emergency posed by COVID 19 and this court along with other trial courts across the state have issued their own administrative orders, this court's having been signed on March 17, 2020.

WHEREAS, the Washington State Supreme Court has issued orders on March 4, March 18 (as corrected on March 19), April 13 and April 29, 2020, directing courts to take important steps to protect public health while ensuring continued access to justice and essential court services, including by strictly observing social distancing measures, holding proceedings remotely, suspending many in-building operations, and promulgating emergency rules as necessary.

WHEREAS, the Washington State Supreme Court has determined that the coordinated response from Washington courts to prevent the further spread of COVID-19 must be continued beyond the timeframes in its prior orders while allowing courts to operate effectively and maintain effective and equitable access to justice.

NOW, THEREFORE, IT IS HEREBY ORDERED:

- 1. This Court adopts by reference the orders of the Washington State Supreme Court issued in response to the state of public health emergency on March 4, March 18 (as corrected on March 19), April 13 and April 29, 2020.
- 2. All portions of this court's Administrative Order issued on March 17, 2020, that do not conflict with the above orders of the Washington State Supreme Court issued in response to this state of emergency shall remain in full force and effect, and all portions of this court's Administrative Order issued on March 17, 2020, that directly conflict with the above orders of the Supreme Court are rescinded.

With Respect to Civil Matters:

3. All civil jury trials remain suspended until at least July 6, 2020.

- 4. Non-emergency civil matters may be continued until after June 1, 2020. However, this court will make all reasonable efforts to begin to hear non-emergency civil matters, such as infractions, name changes, default and summary judgement motions, so long as such matters can appropriately be conducted by telephone, video or other remote means.
- 5. This court will continue to prioritize and hear all emergency civil matters that can be heard by telephone, video, or other remote means.
- 6. This court will continue to hear emergency civil protection order and restraining order matters by telephone, video or other remote means and will allow for filing petitions in person or by email to *district@stevenscountywa.gov*.

With Respect to Criminal Matters:

- 7. All criminal jury trials remain suspended until at least July 6, 2020.
- 8. This court will continue to hear **in-custody** proceedings for defendants who are held in jail via video conference.
- 9. For **out-of-custody** matters, this court will continue to hear first appearance hearings on cases involving Driving Under the Influence, Physical Control and Domestic Violence by telephone, video or other remote means.
- 10. All other **out-of-custody** criminal matters may be continued until after June 1, 2020, except this court will take all reasonable efforts to accommodate those motions, actions on agreed orders, status conferences or other proceedings that can appropriately be conducted by telephone, video or other means that does not require in-person attendance.
- 11. This court encourages attorneys to submit agreed scheduling orders for entry off-docket in all pending matters whenever possible consistent with the terms of this order.

General Information:

- 12. The public observation of court proceedings is available by telephonic or video means and the instructions will be provided by contacting the Stevens County District Court Clerk's Office at (509) 684-5249.
- 13. This court will waive the fee for obtaining a CD recording of court proceedings conducted during the declared COVIS 19 public health emergency.
- 14. This order may be modified consistent with the court's continual assessment of the ongoing public health emergency.

DATED this 30th day of April, 2020.

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Presiding Stevens County District Court Judge