

IN THE MUNICIPAL COURT  
FOR THE CITY OF OLYMPIA  
FOR THE STATE OF WASHINGTON

|  |   |                      |
|--|---|----------------------|
| IN THE MATTER OF                           | ) |                      |
|  | ) | EMERGENCY            |
| Emergency Response to Public Health Threat | ) | ADMINISTRATIVE ORDER |
| (Coronavirus/COVID-19)                     | ) | NO. 3-2020           |

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) and

WHEREAS, as of November 16, 2020, the spread of COVID-19 is increasing in the State of Washington and in Thurston County at a higher rate than anytime throughout the pandemic, and

WHEREAS, On October 13, 2020 the Washington Supreme Court adopted Fourth Revised and Extended Order Regarding Court Operations No. 25700-B-646 (Order No. 25700-B-646), 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 state of emergency issued an emergency order in response to the public health emergency that affects operations of trial courts in Washington State; and

WHEREAS, to reduce spread of COVID-19, the United States Centers for Disease Control and Prevention and the Washington State Department of Health (DOH) recommend implementation of community mitigation strategies to increase containment of the virus, including cancellation of large gatherings and social distancing in smaller gatherings; and

WHEREAS, Supreme Court Order No. 25700-B-646, and the orders amended thereby, require the courts in this state to significantly alter current practices,

NOW, THEREFORE, IT IS HEREBY ORDERED:

**THIS ORDER SUPERSEDES ORDER NO. 2-2020 AND THEREFORE ORDER NO. 2-2020 IS HEREBY REPEALED.**

1. If you are sick or experiencing flu-like symptoms such as a cough, fever, respiratory problems, or any symptoms associated with COVID-19 or if you have an at risk health conditions or have a weakened immune systems, DO NOT come into any of the Olympia Municipal Court facilities – including court services, probation services, the community court provider building and courtrooms.
2. All court matters including criminal, traffic, and parking, except jury trials (*see paragraph 5*), shall continue to be conducted either in-person or by video through Zoom.

3. **All in custody** criminal matters shall continue to be conducted by video through Zoom. Defense attorneys, the City prosecution, and the public may appear in person or by video and/or audio through Zoom.
4. If you are the defendant in the case, and are experiencing COVID-19 symptoms, do not come into the court facility. Please contact your attorney as soon as possible to discuss rescheduling your hearing. If you have a public defender and do not know how to contact your attorney, please contact the court at [court@ci.olympia.wa.us](mailto:court@ci.olympia.wa.us) or (360) 753-8312.
5. **TIME FOR TRIAL:** Pursuant to the authority granted by the Washington Supreme Court in paragraphs 12 and 23 of Order No. 25700-B-646 and as the Presiding Judge of the Olympia Municipal Court, I find that the current rise of cases of COVID-19 is an unavoidable circumstance requiring the suspension of the time for trial rule CrRLJ 3.3(e)(3). Therefore, the time between November 16, 2020 and the next scheduled court date after December 31, 2020 shall be EXCLUDED when calculating time for trial. Furthermore, all jury trials currently scheduled in the year 2020 are cancelled and shall be reset after December 31, 2020.

When jury trials recommence:

- a) Jurors who have at risk health conditions or have a weakened immune system please call or email the court to alert us that you fall into one of these high-risk categories. Potential jurors in these categories will be excused and will not be reporting for jury duty at this time. The court will accommodate you and reschedule your service for a later jury term.
  - b) If you are sick, please do not report for jury duty. Please contact the court by phone or email at (360) 753-8312 or [court@ci.olympia.wa.us](mailto:court@ci.olympia.wa.us).
6. The Court office will remain open to the public from 8:00 a.m. – 4:00 p.m. Monday through Friday. To minimize contact, please contact the court by phone or e-mail if possible, to avoid in-person visits.
  7. Probation appointments may be conducted by telephone unless otherwise directed. Probation clients **must** contact probation for reporting instructions at (360) 753-8263.
  8. The December 5<sup>th</sup> Victim's Impact Panel is cancelled. Those currently scheduled for the December panel will be rescheduled. Please contact Olympia Probation for further information at (360) 753-8263.
  9. MRT classes will continue to be conducted remotely. Please contact probation for further information at (360) 753-8263.
  10. Warrants shall be issued in compliance with paragraph 14 of the Washington State Supreme Court's Order No. 25700-B-646.

11. It is Further Ordered that in all hearings delayed by this order, notices will be mailed to the parties for the next scheduled hearing date via US mail. Any party needing to update their mailing address should contact the court clerk at (360) 753-8312 or email the court at [court@ci.olympia.wa.us](mailto:court@ci.olympia.wa.us).

This order may be modified consistent with the Court's continual assessment of the needs of the community as well as the recommendations of public health officials.



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Presiding Judge Scott Ahlf