

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. 1-2020

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, On March 4, 2020 Chief Justice Debra Stephens of the Washington Supreme Court adopted Order No. 25700-B-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 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;

NOW, THEREFORE, IT IS HEREBY ORDERED:

In accordance with the closing of all City of Olympia buildings, the Olympia Municipal court is closing to the public on March 16, 2020 at 12:00 PM until at least March 31, 2020. With limited personnel, the court will address in custody hearings at 2:00 PM every day. No other hearings will be held until March 31, 2020, at the earliest.

When the court resumes operations, the following applies:

1. If you are sick or experiencing flu-like symptoms such as a cough, fever or other respiratory problems, or if you are 60 years or older, have at risk health conditions, have weakened immune systems, or are pregnant please DO NOT come into any of the Olympia Municipal Court facilities – including court services, probation services, the community court provider building and courtrooms.
2. Olympia Municipal Court will grant continuance requests on out-of-custody matters for non-mandatory hearings. If you are the defendant in the case, 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 or (360) 753-8312.

3. Jury trials for individuals not held in custody are suspended until further notice. Jury trials for individuals held in custody will be held if the court is able to secure sufficient jurors to proceed through all stages of the trial.
 - a) Jurors who are 60 years or older, have at risk health conditions, have weakened immune systems, or are pregnant, 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 much later jury term.
 - b) If you are sick, please to not report for jury duty, but please contact the court by phone or email at (360) 753-8312 or court@ci.olympia.wa.us.
 - c) The court will make accommodations to allow for the recommended six-foot social distancing standard for jurors when they report for jury duty.
4. Community Court will be cancelled for the immediate future. Community Court will resume when reasonably prudent to do so. All clients will be rescheduled. Participants should contact the community court case manager by phone for check-ins.
5. All in person traffic and parking hearings have been rescheduled. Hearings may be conducted by mail. Requests for hearings, deferrals, or payment plans may be made by e-mail to court@ci.olympia.wa.us. Payments may be made by phone at (877) 793-8935 or through the City's website: olympiawa.gov/court.
6. Probation appointments will be conducted by telephone unless otherwise directed. Probation clients **must** contact probation for reporting instructions at (360) 753-8263.
7. The April 16th Victim's Impact Panel is cancelled. Those currently scheduled for the April panel will be rescheduled. Please contact Olympia Probation for further information at (360) 753-8263.
8. The April 16th DUI Alternative Program is cancelled. The next program is currently scheduled for Thursday, July 9th. If you are currently scheduled to attend on April 16th, you will be reset to a future date and notified by mail or telephone. Any questions please contact Olympia Probation at (360) 753-8263.
9. In person MRT classes are cancelled for now. Please contact probation for further information at (360) 753-8263.

10. Warrants will only be issued for individuals posing an identified risk. Warrants will not be issued for only failure to appear at this time.

For all hearings currently pending and for hearings on new cases filed during the pendency of this order that are delayed by effect of this order, the delay/continuance shall constitute an excluded period for purposes of Speedy Trial, CrRLJ 3.3, CrRLJ 4.1, IRLJ 2.2, IRLJ 2.4, IRLJ 2.6, and any other applicable court rule.

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.

For all hearings not continued by effect of this rule, telephonic hearings will be permitted to the greatest extent possible in order to encourage social distancing as recommended by both the Centers for Disease Control and local public health officials.

The court and probation offices will remain open; however, the public is encouraged to contact the court via telephone (360) 753-8312 or email at 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.



Presiding Judge Scott Ahlf