FILED

OCT X 7 2021

JEFFERSON COUNTY
DISTRICT COURT

IN THE DISTRICT COURT OF THE STATE OF WASHINGTON
FOR JEFFERSON COUNTY

IN THE MATTER OF THE RESPONSE BY THE COURT TO PUBLIC HEALTH EMERGENCY COVID-19	))))	ADMINISTRATIVE ORDER NO. JS03-2021

WHEREAS, the World Health Organization has determined the spread of the new coronavirus (COVID-19) has now reached worldwide pandemic levels; and

WHEREAS, the Washington State Supreme Court has adopted various orders including Order No. 25700-B-602 granting emergency authority to this Court to adopt, modify, and suspend court rules and orders, and to take further actions concerning court operations, as warranted to address the current state of emergency; and

WHEREAS, Washington Governor Jay Inslee has declared a State of Emergency due to the COVID-19 outbreak, and local public health officials have declared that the COVID-19 virus will continue to spread; and

WHEREAS. This order supplements Administrative Order JS01-2021and JS02-2021 entered by this Court on January 26, 2021 and August 27, 2021 respectively.

WHEREAS, the significant number of identified and projected cases of the disease in Washington, the severity of the risk posed to the public, the recommendations of Heath Department, and the authority granted by the Washington State Supreme Court Orders, the current situation demands immediate action by the Courts.

WHEREAS, Jefferson County has experienced a significant increase in COVID related hospitalization and higher rates of infection,

NOW, THEREFORE, EFFECTIVE IMMEDIATELY, IT IS HEREBY ORDERED:

1. All civil jury trials are suspended through November 30, 2021 or until further order from the Court. All other hearings shall remain as scheduled.
2. All criminal jury pools are canceled through November 30, 2021 unless further order of the Court. Bench trials will still be conducted.

3. For all hearings/trials 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 unavoidable circumstance and an excluded period for purposes of speedy trial, CrRLJ 3.3, and CrRLJ 4.1 and any other applicable court rule. The excluded period will end at the first hearing after November 30, 2021 for each individual case.

4. The Court encourages all parties to appear over ZOOM if possible. Information on how to access the ZOOM calendars will be provided to any party who calls and it posted on the Court website.

5. Zoom is available for final resolutions, with a written or verbal waiver from the defendant, except for cases involving Driving Under the Influence, Physical Control or other alcohol related driving offenses, Ignition Interlock Violations, or any DV related offenses including Protection Order Violations. Zoom is available for the excluded types of cases with agreement by both parties.

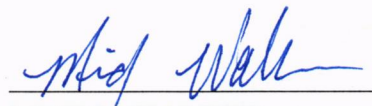
6. Zoom calendars are live streamed on a Jefferson County District Court YouTube Channel. That channel is https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCrdDMUrmLxPquSW_XZKyttg/. Zoom in only available on the YouTube channel as a live stream. No videos are save onto the YouTube platform.

7. Criminal cases currently scheduled for dispositive motions other than motions in limine and CrRLJ 3.5 will remain as set. Parties may appear in person or agree in writing to have the hearing via the Zoom platform with a waiver from the Defendant. In addition to the judge and court clerk, only the defendant, defense counsel, and prosecuting attorney shall remain in the courtroom with witnesses waiting outside the courtroom and being admitted one at a time. These proceedings will be published on Zoom and YouTube to allow viewing by the public.

8. Electronic signatures are authorized as outlined in the Supreme Court Oder No. 25700-B-615 and subsequent orders. In accordance with that Order, this Court waives the provisions of GR 30 (d) that require (1) the issuance of a user ID and password to electronically file documents with the Court or clerk; (2) that a party who has filed electronically or has provided the clerk with their email address must give consent to accept electronic transmissions from the Court. For telephonic or virtual hearings, per GR 30 (d)(2)(E)(ii) the Court with permission of the signatories can affix acknowledgement of signature on the documents without the parties being present. A judicial officer may authorize and direct any Court staff to affix the judicial officer's signature on a court record.

9. This Order will remain in effect due to the public health emergency until further order of the Court.

DATE this 7 day of October, 2021.



MINDY WALKER
District Court Judge