

IN THE DISTRICT COURT FOR THE STATE OF WASHINGTON IN AND FOR THE COUNTY OF BENTON

In re:

COURT OPERATIONS UNDER THE
EXIGENT CIRCUMSTANCES CREATED
BY INFORMATION BREACH AT
ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICE OF THE
COURTS

Administrative Order No. 24-01

WHEREAS the Administrative Office of the Courts has been offline since November 4, 2024 and the court's necessary information technology for the administration of justice and its ability to hold fair hearings has been compromised or eliminated;

and WHEREAS the date for restoration of the required services has not been determined,

NOW THEREFORE, THE FOLLOWING IS HEREBY ORDERED EFFECTIVE IMMEDIATELY:

- 1. JURY TRIALS: All jury trials and Friday afternoon Trial Readiness hearings currently set for the month of November are reset exactly 4 weeks from their current dates.
 - a. The Court finds and concludes in accordance with CrRLJ 3.3(g)(8) and CrRLJ 3.3(f)(2) that all continuances granted or ordered by this court pursuant to this order are (1) due to unavoidable or unforeseen circumstances beyond the control of the court or the parties; (2) required for the administration of justice; (3) that good cause exists for such continuances; and (4) that criminal defendants will not be prejudiced in the presentation of their defenses by such continuances.
 - b. In all cases with trials continued pursuant to this Order, the allowable time for trial shall not expire earlier than 30 days after the new trial setting.

- 2. OTHER CRIMINAL HEARINGS: All criminal hearings during the weeks of November 6-8 and November 12-15, excluding Therapeutic Courts hearings and any hearing in which the defendant is in custody, are reset precisely 4 weeks from the date originally set.
 - a. The Court will accept agreed motions to continue without the defendant having to personally appear in court. These motions may be filed in advance of the hearing or filed in court on the originally scheduled hearing date. The Court finds and concludes in accordance with CrRLJ 3.3(f) that all continuances granted ordered by the Court pursuant to this Order are required in the administration of justice and further finds that good cause exists for such continuances and that criminal defendants will not be prejudiced in the presentation of their defenses by any such continuances.
 - b. Speedy trial waivers with later commencement date resulting in a prolonged continuance will be accepted and are encouraged by the Court.
- PROSSER: All court hearings scheduled to be heard at the Benton County Courthouse in Prosser in the month of November are continued exactly four weeks from the date currently set.
- 4. OTHER DOCKETS: All civil dockets, including infraction dockets remain unaffected by this Order.
- 5. DURATION: This Order shall remain in effect until November 27, 2024 unless later rescinded, modified or extended by the Court.

Daniel F. Kathren, Presiding Judge