

IN THE SUPERIOR COURT OF WASHINGTON IN AND FOR THE COUNTY OF CHELAN

IN THE MATTER OF: Emergency Response to a)	ADMINISTRATIVE ORDER
Threat to General Public Health and Welfare,)	OF THE COURT: 2020-8
Caused By the Coronavirus Disease 2019)	NO. 20-2-00002-04
("COVID-19"))	

WHEREAS, on March 4, 2020, Washington Supreme Court Chief Justice Debra Stephens entered Order No. 25700-B-602, in response to the declared public health emergency in Washington State;

WHEREAS, our county and country have experienced a significant recent increase in the number of cases of COVID-19 and public health officials are strongly recommending residents avoid social contact to the extent possible in an attempt to slow the transmission of the disease and resulting hospitalizations;

WHEREAS, Governor Jay Inslee has imposed substantial new restrictions on social contact outside of household members in an effort to control the number of COVID-19 cases and to protect public safety;

WHEREAS, the Court finds that the health and safety of the public, the parties to any litigation in this Court, the employees of the Court and the employees within the law enforcement community are at risk by said pandemic; and

NOW, THEREFORE, pursuant to the Court's authority to administer justice and to ensure the safety of court personnel, litigants, and the public,

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Superior Court of the State of Washington

For Chelan County

Post Office Box 880 Wenatchee, Washington 98807-0880

IT IS HEREBY ORDERED THAT:

- 1. Pursuant to General Rule (GR) 21(a) and Washington State Supreme Court Order No. 25700-B-002 dated March 4, 2020, the Presiding Judge of Chelan County, Washington is authorized to adopt, modify, and suspend court rules and orders and to take further actions concerning court operations, as warranted, to address the current public health emergency.
- 2. This order is effective nunc pro tunc to December 18, 2020. To the extent that this order is inconsistent with prior emergency orders of the court, this order supersedes all prior orders regarding court operations during this public health emergency.
- 3. A continuance of jury trials is required in the administration of justice.

 Based upon the court's finding that the serious danger posed by COVID-19 is good cause to continue criminal jury trials and constitutes an unavoidable circumstance under CrR 3.3(e)(8), the time between the date of this order and the date of the next scheduled trial date is excluded when calculating time for trial pursuant to CrR 3.3(e)(3).
- 4. All pending criminal jury trials in this court scheduled to be heard during the trial week beginning January 5, 2021, are continued to the trial week beginning January 26, 2021, or such other date as agreed to by the parties and approved by the court. A Readiness Hearing in such cases shall be set for January 11, 2021, unless otherwise agreed by the parties.

- 5. Counsel may submit agreed and ex parte orders resetting trials to dates up to March 31, 2021. For hearings requested beyond March 31, such request shall be heard on a regularly scheduled criminal calendar.
- 6. The regularly scheduled probation violation and child support calendars shall be suspended for the month of December 2020.
- 7. Other hearings and non-jury trials shall proceed as scheduled. However, the court strongly encourages all attorneys and litigants to appear remotely for scheduled hearings whenever possible, including by phone and video conferencing.

AMENDMENT OF THIS ORDER

1. The Superior Court anticipates the need to amend and/or supersede this Order as the COVID-19 public health emergency continues to develop and more information becomes available.

DATED this ______day of December, 2020.

Honorable/Lesley A. Allan

Presiding Judge

Chelan County Superior Court

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For Chelan County