

FILED
COUNTY CLERK

IN THE SUPERIOR COURT OF WASHINGTON
FOR THE COUNTY OF WHATCOM COUNTY
WASHINGTON

2020 MAR 11 2:59

BY _____

IN THE MATTER OF RESPONSE TO PUBLIC
HEALTH RISK

) ADMINISTRATIVE ORDER
)
) NO. _____
) 20-2-00001-37
)

WHEREAS, the state and this county are experiencing a rapid increase in the numbers of people showing symptoms of and being diagnosed with the current strain of coronavirus known as COVID-19; and

WHEREAS COVID-19 is known to be highly contagious and easily transmitted in enclosed spaces like the jury rooms of this Court; and

WHEREAS the Governor of the State of Washington has declared a State of Emergency due to the COVID-19 outbreak; and the Whatcom County Executive has declared a Public Health Emergency due to the COVID-19 outbreak; and


WHEREAS, the Washington State Supreme Court has adopted Order No. 25700-B-602 granting this Court emergency authority 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;

NOW, THEREFORE, IT IS HEREBY ORDERED:

1. Jury trials scheduled for any date between the date of this Order and Tuesday, March 31, 2020 shall be rescheduled to April 6, 2020 or thereafter.
2. Defendants in criminal cases scheduled for trial between March 11 and March 31, 2020, shall appear before the Court on the day of trial, as ordered in the Trial Setting Order in their cases, unless the Court has entered an agreed Trial Setting Order, signed by the defendant and both attorneys, before that date.

3. The parties to civil cases scheduled for jury trial between March 11 and March 31, 2020, shall note the matter for trial setting, or may submit an agreed order setting a trial date agreed by both parties, their counsel and the Court.
4. Bench trials are not affected by this Order and will proceed as scheduled.
5. The Court's regular schedule and procedures will be followed except as specifically provided in this Order.

DATED this 11th day of March 2020.



Deborra Garrett, Presiding Judge