

IN THE MUNICIPAL COURT
FOR THE CITY OF GIG HARBOR

COURT OPERATIONS UNDER THE EXIGENT)
CIRCUMSTANCES CREATED BY COVID-19)
AND RELATED CORAVIRUS) ADMINISTRATIVE ORDER
) NO. 2020-05

WHEREAS, the Chief Justice of the Supreme Court of the State of Washington has issued an emergency order in response to the public health emergency that affects operations of trial courts in Washington State on March 4, 2020.

WHEREAS, the Washington State Supreme Court has adopted Order Nos. 25700-B-602, 25700-B-606, 25700-B-607, and 25700-B-618 granting and extending 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.

WHEREAS, Washington State Governor Jay Inslee extended the “Stay Home, Stay Healthy” emergency order through May 31, 2020.

NOW, THEREFORE, IT IS HEREBY ORDERED:

1. Civil infraction hearings will be conducted by telephone or video conferencing to address the threat to the public health.
2. Civil infraction mitigation hearings may be converted to hearings-by-mail appearances upon timely filing of Request for Mitigation by Mail form.
3. Jury trials are suspended through July 6, 2020. Jury trials will be reset subsequent to that date by future court order. The period of the continuances implemented by this Administrative Order will be excluded for calculation of speedy trial as the court specifically finds this to be an excluded period under CrRLJ 3.3(e).
4. Out-of-custody criminal cases now pending are continued to the month of June 2020 or thereafter as may be warranted to address the threat to public

health, except those matters that can be appropriately conducted by telephone or video conferencing.

5. The court will hear in-custody cases and other emergency matters as necessary to preserve defendants' constitutional rights. The Court reserves the right to maintain or schedule arraignments, pretrial hearings, or reviews/revocation hearings as necessary in cases involving threats to public safety, including but not limited to domestic violence offenses and driving while under the influence/physical control.
6. The court office will be closed to the public from March 16, 2020 through May 31, 2020 and will be re-evaluated at that time. Court staff will be available by telephone and via email at court@cityofqigharbor.net.
7. This order may be amended or withdrawn as warranted to address the on-going public health emergency.

DATED this 13th day of May 2020.

approved electronically _____
Zenon P. Olbertz, Presiding Judge