

IN THE MUNICIPAL COURT SERVING
CITY OF LAKEWOOD
CITY OF UNIVERSITY PLACE
TOWN OF STEILACOOM
CITY OF DUPONT

IN THE MATTER OF) ADMINISTRATIVE ORDER
Emergency Response to Public Health Threat) NO. 20-07
(Coronavirus/COVID-19))

WHEREAS, the Washington State Supreme Court has responded to the current status of the COVID-19 epidemic in a letter dated November 20, 2020 by Washington State Supreme Court Chief Justice Stephens to Washington State Superior Court Judges that reads in pertinent part:

I know we are all disappointed and distressed by the dramatic rise in COVID-19 activity in our state. See COVID-19 Activity Intensifying Across Washington State. The overall increase in COVID-19 cases is especially alarming as we head into the Winter months and respiratory illness season. The restrictions on social and business activities announced by Governor Inslee earlier this week underscore the need to take dramatic steps to protect public health and safety at this critical time. See COVID-19 Guidance. We are at a critical moment not only because the virus is surging but also because we are on the cusp of having a viable vaccine and more available rapid testing. We can see brighter days ahead and must not lose our focus and our resolve to do our part in reducing transmissions and saving lives; and,

Because Pierce County has experienced a recent surge in COVID-19 transmission consistent with the activity noted by Justice Stephens;

NOW, THEREFORE, IT IS HEREBY ORDERED:

1. CrRLJ 3.3, the Time for Trial Rule for criminal matters and CrRLJ 4.1 time for arraignment are hereby suspended through at least January 11, 2021. The Court specifically finds that the administration of justice is served by the continuance, and the defendant's right to a speedy trial is outweighed by the

best interest of the public due to the unforeseen and unavoidable circumstances caused by the above enunciated public health emergency.

2. Notices for future dates for all cases delayed by this order will be mailed to the parties via U.S. mail. Any party needing to update a mailing address should contact the Court by email at citycourt@cityoflakewood.us, by fax at 253-512-2267 or by phone at 253-512-2258.
3. The Court hereby incorporates into this emergency order the Supreme Court orders in response to the COVID-19 health crisis as well as any other Supreme Court order promulgated in response to COVID-19, together with any relevant Proclamation by Governor Inslee.

DATED this 25th day of November, 2020.



Lisa H. Mansfield, Presiding Judge