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TIMOTHY W. FITZGERALD
SPOKANE COUNTY CLERK



**SUPERIOR COURT OF WASHINGTON
FOR SPOKANE COUNTY**

IN THE MATTER OF THE RESPONSE BY
SPOKANE COUNTY SUPERIOR COURT TO
THE PUBLIC HEALTH EMERGENCY IN
WASHINGTON STATE

No. 94-2-06940-8
EMERGENCY ORDER #8

WHEREAS, the Governor of the State of Washington has declared a state of emergency in all counties of Washington due to the public health emergency caused by the Coronavirus Disease 2019 (COVID-19); and

WHEREAS, The Commissioners of Spokane County, the Mayor of the City of Spokane and the Spokane Regional Health District have also declared a state of emergency in Spokane County due to the same public health concerns; and

WHEREAS, the Washington State Supreme Court has adopted Order No. 25700-B-615 (Filed April 13, 2020), suspending all civil and criminal jury trials until after May 4, 2020, in addition to granting 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; and

1 WHEREAS, on March 20, 2020 the Washington State Supreme Court adopted
2 Order No. 25700-B-607 granting emergency authority to this Court to adopt, modify,
3 and suspend court rules and orders and to take further actions concerning court
4 operations, as warranted to address the current state of emergency; and
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6 WHEREAS, on March 18, 2020 the Washington State Supreme Court adopted
7 Order No. 25700-B-606 suspending all civil jury trials and all civil matters until after
8 April 24, 2020, among other orders; and
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10 WHEREAS, on March 23, 2020, and extended on April 2, 2020, the Governor of
11 the State of Washington has added additional restrictions on the citizens of the State
12 of Washington due to the declared state of emergency concerning the Coronavirus
13 Disease 2019 (COVID-19) with his Proclamation 20-25, Stay Home – Stay Healthy
14 and extended with Proclamation 20-25.1; and

15 WHEREAS, this Court issued its Emergency Orders #1 through #7 to respond
16 to the state of emergency and mitigate the effect of COVID-19; and
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18 NOW, THEREFORE, IT IS HEREBY ORDERED, EFFECTIVE IMMEDIATELY:
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21 **1. Criminal and Juvenile Offender Matters**

22 a) All criminal trials are suspended until June 1, 2020.

23 b) Jurors summoned for trials set prior to June 1, 2020 shall be
24 excused. Jurors shall be summoned for any trials set no sooner than June 1,
25 2020.

26 c) All in custody and out of custody criminal and juvenile offender
27 matters, except trials, shall be continued until after May 4, 2020 subject to the
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2 exceptions authorized by the Washington State Supreme Court Order No. 25700-
3 B-615 (Filed April 13, 2020).

4 d) A continuance of these criminal and juvenile offender trials is
5 required in the administration of justice. Based upon the court's finding that the
6 serious danger posed by COVID-19 is good cause to continue criminal and
7 juvenile offender trials, and constitutes an unavoidable circumstance under CrR
8 3.3(e)(8), CrRLJ 3.3(e)(8), and JuCR 7.8(e)(7), the time between the date of this
9 Order and July 3, 2020 shall be EXCLUDED when calculating time for trial. CrR
10 3.3(e)(3), CrRLJ 3.3(e)(3), JuCR 7.8(e)(3).

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12 **2. Civil Trials/Matters**

13 a. The Court will conduct no civil jury trials prior to June 1, 2020.

14 b. The Court shall conduct no civil bench trials, including family law
15 cases, until after May 4, 2020. Trials will only be conducted when strict social
16 distancing guidelines can be observed. Civil Bench trials may be scheduled after
17 May 4, 2020, in matters where remote presentations can be arranged by the
18 litigants and/or counsel OR in matters where the Governor's/Supreme Court's
19 mandates can be followed during all in Court proceedings.

20 c. All non-emergency civil motions, including family law motions, are
21 continued until after May 4, 2020. Motions will only be conducted in matters where
22 remote presentations can be arranged by the litigants and/or counsel OR in
23 matters where the Governor's/Supreme Court's mandates can be followed during
24 all in Court proceedings.

25 d. The non-contested dissolution calendar shall be suspended until
26 further order of the Court.

27 e. Guardianship hearings and annual audits affected by Emergency
28 Orders #1 and #5 shall be rescheduled and/or are on hold until after May 4, 2020.

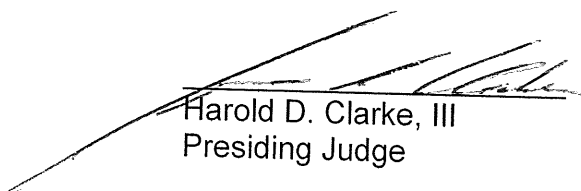
29 f. Child Support Hearings shall be continued until after May 4, 2020.

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2 g. Unlawful Detainer Hearings shall be rescheduled by the petitioner
3 after June 4, 2020.

4 3. Spokane County Superior Court may extend the time frames in this Order as
5 required by the continuing public health emergency, and if necessary, will do so by
6 further order.

7 4. Spokane County Superior Court may adopt further restrictions as necessary to
8 respond to the current state of emergency in order to mitigate the effect of COVID-
9 19 and will do so by further court order.

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11 Dated: April 20th, 2020.

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14 Harold D. Clarke, III
15 Presiding Judge
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