FILED
IN COUNTY CLERK'S OFFICE

APR 17 2020

PIERCE COUNTY, WASHINGTON
KEVIN STOCK, County Clerk
BY KMA DEPUTY

IN THE SUPERIOR COURT OF WASHINGTON, COUNTY OF PIERCE

IN RE THE MATTER OF THE RESPONSE BY PIERCE COUNTY SUPERIOR COURT TO THE PUBLIC HEALTH EMERGENCY IN WASHINGTON STATE	Emergency Order: 20-14 EMERGENCY **ORDER #14** PUBLIC HEALTH EMERGENCY ORDER REGARDING AMENDMENTS IN CONFORMANCE WITH SUPREME COURT ORDERS

This matter comes before the Court again on the COVID-19 public health emergency in Washington State.

Pierce County Superior Court Emergency Orders #1, #2, #3, #4, #5, #6, #7, #8, #9, #10 #11, #12, and #13, as well as the Supreme Court orders issued March 4, 18 (as amended March 20, 2020) and April 13 and 15, 2020, and Governor Inslee's various Proclamations in the social distancing and "Stay Home-Stay Healthy" series are incorporated by reference.

In a continuing and expanding effort to reduce the incidents of close contact between employees of Pierce County Superior Court, members of the Bar, members of the public and any other entity or agency accessing the Court, the County-City Building, Juvenile Court (Remann Hall) and civil commitment proceedings (Western State Hospital); and,

Because certain previously issued Pierce County Superior Court Emergency Orders have referenced a termination date of the respective county emergency order(s); and,

Because those termination dates must necessarily change in response to the Governor's Proclamation 20-25.1 in which the "Stay Home-Stay Healthy" order was extended to May 4, 2020; and,

Because on April 13, 2020, the Supreme Court revised their March 4, 2020, and March 18, 2020 (as amended March 20, 2020) orders with respect to Civil Matters, Criminal and Juvenile Offender Matters, as well as general Court Operations, as a means of, among other things, extending the prior effective date through May 4, 2020; and,

Because on April 15, 2020, the Supreme Court instituted safety and procedural rules in civil commitment cases; and,

Because certain county practices and protocols may necessarily evolve or change to enable efficient and fair access to, and administration of, justice in this time of emergency;

IT IS HEREBY ORDERED that:

Pierce County emergency orders #1 though #13 are extended through at least May 4, 2020, with the expectation that the effective date may again be extended circumstances arise.

Specifically, civil jury trials and non-emergency civil matters shall be continued until after May 4, 2020, with exceptions noted in the Supreme Court's order for matters that can be conducted by a means not requiring in-person attendance. Unless impossible, emergency civil matters must be facilitated via video, telephone or other means not requiring in-person attendance. Non-jury civil trials shall proceed as scheduled at the discretion of the court via video, telephone or other means beginning May 5, 2020.

Criminal jury trials remain suspended through May 4, 2020. All out of custody criminal and juvenile offender matters shall be continued until after May 4, 2020, with exceptions noted in the Supreme Court's order for emergency proceedings and those matters that can be heard by a means not requiring in-person attendance. All in custody criminal and juvenile offender matters shall be continued until after May 4, 2020, with exceptions noted in the Supreme Court order.

In addition to other directives pertaining to the Involuntary Treatment Act, as set forth in RCW 71.05, and the Behavioral Health Services for Minors Act, as set forth in RCW 71.34, civil commitment jury trials shall not commence before May 4, 2020, and may be extended further by future order.

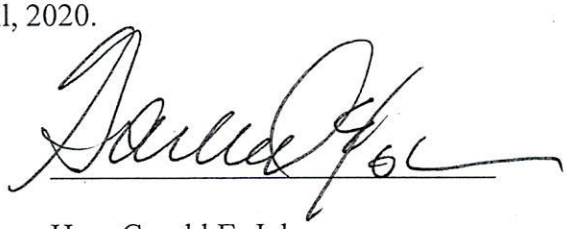
If necessary to make clear that there is a basis for Pierce County Superior Court's various emergency orders, the Court hereby incorporates into each of our emergency orders the Supreme Court orders in response to the COVID-19 heath crisis dated March 4, 2020, March 18, 2020 (as amended March 20, 2020), April 13, 2020, and April 15, 2020, as well as any other Supreme Court order promulgated in response to COVID-19, together with any relevant Proclamation by Governor Inslee.

The intent of this order is to conform Pierce County Superior Court's Emergency Orders with the various Supreme Court COVID-19 response orders.

Any temporary Pierce County emergency protocol adopted and published may be updated or modified as necessary during this period.

Any updates or modifications to temporary emergency protocols shall be reduced to writing and published on the Pierce County Superior Court and Tacoma-Pierce County Bar Association websites as they become available.

DATED this 17th day of April, 2020.



Hon. Garold E. Johnson,
Presiding Judge
Pierce County Superior Court

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