IN THE MUNICIPAL COURT OF SEATTLE, WASHINGTON OFFICE OF THE PRESIDING JUDGE

COURT OPERATIONS UNDER)	GENERAL ADMINISTRATIVE ORDER
THE EXIGENT)	
CIRCUMSTANCES CREATED)	No. 2020 - 13
BY COVID-19 AND	
RELATED CORONAVIRUS)	COVID-19 EMERGENCY LIMITED
	COURT OPERATIONS

PURSUANT TO order No. 25700-B-626 of The Supreme Court of Washington and GR 21, as Presiding Judge of the Seattle Municipal Court, in the interest of both public safety and public health during the COVID-19 crisis, given the significant rise in COVID-19 cases in the greater King County area, the "Stay Safe – Stay Healthy" Statewide rollback proclamation by the Washington State Governor Jay Inslee on November 15th, and the current inability to conduct some hearing types remotely,

IT IS HEREBY ORDERED THAT:

- 1. <u>Remote Appearances</u>: All parties may appear remotely either by telephone or video for all criminal hearing types, with the exception of Jury Trials and Intake, unless specifically ordered to appear in person by a Judge.
- 2. <u>Intake</u>: Due to the difficulty coordinating the logistics of this calendar remotely and the unavailability of required technology, all future out-of-custody arraignment appearances set for Intake hearings in Courtroom 302 shall be continued to a date no earlier than February 3rd, 2021. For the purposes of speedy trial, the next hearing date will serve as the commencement date on these matters. This does not apply to in-custody arraignments handled at Courtroom KCJ2, or DUI or DV out-of-custody arraignments.
- 3. <u>Jury Trials</u>: Due to the Court's reduced ability to obtain an adequate spectrum of jurors and the necessity of counsel and Court staff to be present in the courtroom, Jury Trials are suspended through at least March

- 3rd, 2021. All cases awaiting trial shall be administratively set for a readiness hearing when it is determined safe to resume Jury Trials. The new readiness hearing date shall be considered the initial commencement date for purposes of establishing the time for trial under CrR 3.3(c)(1) and CrRLJ 3.3(c)(1). New notices shall be mailed to the defendant and counsel-of-record when the readiness hearing is rescheduled. Priority shall be given to in-custody matters awaiting trial. In the event the Court cannot safely convene an adequate number of jurors within time for trial, this period of time shall be deemed an excluded period under CrRLJ 3.3(e)(8).
- 4. Motion to Add On: A motion to add on may be filed to address conditions of release on an in-custody matter awaiting trial or if a disposition is reached prior to the readiness hearing date on an in-custody matter or outof-custody matter.
- 5. <u>Trial Setting</u>: All pre-trial matters set for trial prior to when the Court resumes Jury Trials shall be given an administrative readiness date of February 26th, 2021, for tracking purposes. All such matters shall be administratively rescheduled for a revised readiness hearing date when it is determined safe to resume Jury Trials. The new readiness hearing date shall be considered the initial commencement date for purposes of establishing the time for trial under CrR 3.3(c)(1) and CrRLJ 3.3(c)(1). New notices shall be mailed to the defendant and counsel-of-record when the readiness hearing is rescheduled. Priority shall be given to in-custody matters awaiting trial.
- 6. <u>Non-Infraction Civil Hearings</u>: Non-Infraction Civil Hearings will continue to be scheduled and handled remotely. If an in-person hearing is required on these matters it will be set no earlier than March 3rd, 2021.
- 7. <u>Court Calendars</u>: The Court's limited operations calendar framework which began July 6, 2020, will continue until further order of the Court and may

- be altered after consultation with our stakeholders to continue to best schedule Court calendars.
- 8. <u>Youth Traffic Court</u>: Youth Traffic Court hearings will continue to be conducted remotely until further order of the Court.
- 9. Pre-Trial Matters Not Set: Due to limited calendar space, the Court continues to have a backlog of matters that have not been set for a hearing after the Court resumed limited operations on July 6, 2020. For the purposes of speedy trial, the next hearing date will serve as the commencement date on these matters when they are able to be set.
- 10. The Court may extend the time frames in this order as required by this continuing public health crisis and, if necessary, will do so by further order. This order and other applicable emergency general administrative orders may be deemed part of the record in affected cases for purposes of appeal without the need to file the orders in each case. All orders listed in previous General Administrative Orders not specifically amended in this order hereby stand.

DONE this 23th day of November, 2020

Willia J. Gragory
Willie Gregory, PRESIDING JUDGE