

IN THE BREMERTON MUNICIPAL COURT  
IN AND FOR KITSAP COUNTY, WASHINGTON

Judicial Order )  
Re: The Matter of: ) No. 2020-05  
EMERGENCY RESPONSE ) **Updated Emergency**  
TO THE COVID-19 VIRUS ) **Administrative Order**  
THREAT TO )  
PUBLIC HEALTH )  
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**THIS MATTER COMES BEFORE THE COURT ON THE PUBLIC HEALTH  
EMERGENCY IN THE CITY OF BREMERTON, COUNTY OF KITSAP.**

**THIS ORDER SUPPLEMENTS 2020-01 EMERGENCY ADMINISTRATIVE ORDER DATED  
3/18/2020; 2020-03, DATED APRIL 22, 2020, AND 2020-04, DATED MAY 29, 2020.**

As Kitsap County is reportedly seeing an increasing number of positive COVID cases and the death count has increased in the past 30 days, the court is adopting the following restrictions.

**NOW, THEREFORE, IT IS HEREBY ORDERED:**

1. Starting on August 31<sup>st</sup>, all Bremerton Municipal Court hearings set will be anticipated to be heard via Zoom unless otherwise directed by the Judge or Commissioner. The public will be able to view court sessions on YouTube. The only participants allowed in the courtroom will be those directed or authorized by the Judge, Pro-Tem judge, or Commissioner. Anyone seeking to enter the courthouse will be screened for flu like symptoms. Anyone exhibiting flu like symptoms will be denied access, and their hearing will be reset.
2. If a defendant/participant is unable to attend a hearing virtually and appears at the courthouse for his/her hearing, he/she will be instructed to utilize the Zoom room that is set up just inside the courthouse door, unless otherwise directed by the Judge.
3. All persons entering the courthouse MUST wear a face mask or a face shield (if medically unable to wear a mask). Anyone refusing will be denied access and/or asked to leave the building and to call the clerk's office for further direction.
4. Social distancing measures have been implemented, and anyone in the courthouse will be expected to abide by these measures. Anyone violating these measures is subject to immediate removal from the courthouse.

5. All infraction, parking and photo enforcement hearings will be held via Zoom unless the defendant is specifically authorized to have an in person hearing. At that time, the court will make appropriate arrangements for an in person hearing.
6. **VOIRE DIRE CANCELLATION FEE:** The Bremerton Municipal Court is now renting space for jury voir dire. In the event that a defendant has confirmed a jury trial and later decides to plead guilty, enter a PDA or Deferred Prosecution, or request a continuance, the court **MUST** be notified of this change no later than 4:00 pm on the Tuesday prior to the trial date by the defendant or their attorney. Failure to do so will result in the defendant being assessed the cancellation fee for the rental of the Marvin Williams Center. The fee will range from \$100 to \$286.13 depending on the time of cancellation. If the defendant fails to appear on the confirmed trial date without a justifiable explanation, the full rental fee of \$408.75 will be assessed.
7. Court staff will be available by phone daily (M-F) from 8:00-5:00.
8. The Courthouse will continue to be closed daily from 12:00 pm – 1:00 pm.

**THIS ORDER WILL BE IN EFFECT UNTIL FURTHER NOTICE. IT IS SUBJECT TO CHANGE. It shall be posted on the city's website.**

DATED this 21<sup>th</sup> of August, 2020.



JUDGE JAMES N. DOCTER

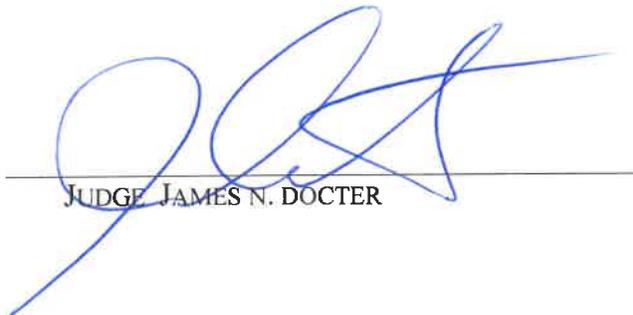


**NOW, THEREFORE, IT IS HEREBY ORDERED:**

1. Starting on June 1<sup>st</sup>, the Bremerton Municipal Court will allow public access, but the public is strongly encouraged to participate via Zoom, or watch court on YouTube if feasible. Anyone seeking to enter the courthouse will be screened for flu like symptoms. Anyone exhibiting flu like symptoms will be denied access, and their hearing will be reset.
2. While we are experiencing a health crisis, the court will encourage hearings to be held by video conferencing aka Zoom, or by telephone, when feasible. All hearings will be streamed live on YouTube, and the public is encouraged to access the court on YouTube.
3. Social distancing measures have been implemented, and anyone in the courthouse will be expected to abide by these measures. Anyone violating these measures is subject to immediate removal.
4. The BMC anticipates hearing jury trials beginning in July, 2020. These details will be forthcoming.
5. Court staff will be available by phone daily (M-F) from 8:00-5:00.
6. The Courthouse will be closed daily from 12:00 pm – 1:00 pm.

**THIS ORDER WILL BE IN EFFECT UNTIL FURTHER NOTICE. IT IS SUBJECT TO CHANGE. It shall be posted on the city's website.**

DATED this 29<sup>th</sup> of May, 2020.



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JUDGE JAMES N. DOCTER

IN THE BREMERTON MUNICIPAL COURT  
IN AND FOR KITSAP COUNTY, WASHINGTON

Judicial Order )  
Re: The Matter of: ) No. 2020-03  
EMERGENCY RESPONSE ) **Emergency Administrative**  
TO THE COVID-19 VIRUS ) **Order**  
THREAT TO )  
PUBLIC HEALTH )  
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**THIS MATTER COMES BEFORE THE COURT ON THE PUBLIC HEALTH  
EMERGENCY IN THE CITY OF BREMERTON, COUNTY OF KITSAP.**

**THIS ORDER SUPPLEMENTS 2020-01 EMERGENCY ADMINISTRATIVE ORDER DATED  
3/18/2020, AND 2020-02 DATED 3/19/2020.**

On 2-29-2020, Governor Jay Inslee declared a state of emergency due to the public health emergency posed by the spread of the coronavirus (COVID-19).

On 3-4-2020, Chief Justice Debra Stephens of the Washington State Supreme Court adopted Order No. 25700-B-602, granting emergency authority upon all Washington Courts to adopt, modify, and/or suspend court rules and orders, and to take further actions concerning court operations, as warranted to address the current state of emergency.

On March 12, 2020 Bremerton Mayor Greg Wheeler proclaimed an emergency within Bremerton, encouraging all local government agencies and institutions to immediately implement any and all proactive measures to help slow/stop the spread of this virus.

On 3-16-2020, Governor Jay Inslee imposed additional restrictions prohibiting gatherings of more than 50 people statewide, which has since been extended.

As of March 17, 2020 the Kitsap Public Health Department had identified at least 7 individuals in this county infected with the COVID19 virus, including one in Bremerton. That department and the Center for Disease Control have identified COVID-19 as a worldwide pandemic and have recommended we take any measures necessary to limit exposure to and help stop any further spread of this virus.

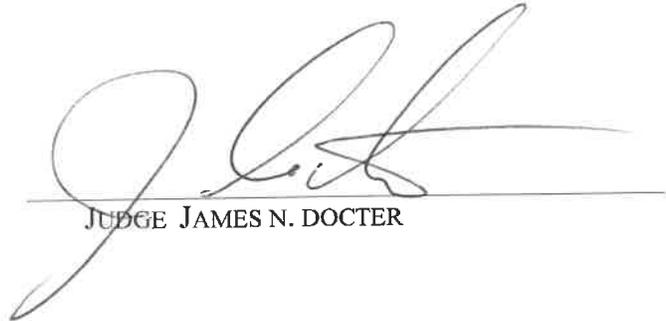
On 3-18-2020 Chief Justice Debra Stephens of the Washington State Supreme Court adopted Order No. 25700-B-606. That Order has been Revised and Extended on April 13, 2020 in Order No. 25700-B-615.

**NOW, THEREFORE, IT IS HEREBY ORDERED:**

1. All hearings currently set in Bremerton Municipal Court will continue to be heard by telephone, video or other means that do not require in-person attendance.
2. Jury trials will be continued until we have further direction from the Supreme Court.
3. Until further notice, the Bremerton Municipal Court will be closed to public access. If a person contacts the court regarding a matter that needs immediate attention, the court will review the matter to determine if the emergency necessitates an in person hearing or can be done by video or telephonically. Telephonic or video hearings are strongly preferred. This includes ex parte protection orders. Any granted Orders may be served upon the defendant/respondent by mail.
4. In custody hearings will continue to be heard by video each morning beginning at 8:00.
5. Court staff will be available by phone daily from 8:00-5:00.

**THIS ORDER WILL BE IN EFFECT UNTIL FURTHER NOTICE. IT IS SUBJECT TO CHANGE. It shall be posted on the city's website.**

DATED this 22<sup>nd</sup> day of April, 2020.



JUDGE JAMES N. DOCTER

IN THE BREMERTON MUNICIPAL COURT  
IN AND FOR KITSAP COUNTY, WASHINGTON

Judicial Order )  
Re: The Matter of: ) No. 2020-02  
EMERGENCY RESPONSE ) **Emergency Administrative**  
TO THE COVID-19 VIRUS ) **Order**  
THREAT TO )  
PUBLIC HEALTH )  
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**THIS MATTER COMES BEFORE THE COURT ON THE PUBLIC HEALTH  
EMERGENCY IN THE CITY OF BREMERTON, COUNTY OF KITSAP.**

**THIS ORDER SUPPLEMENTS 2020-01 EMERGENCY ADMINISTRATIVE ORDER DATED  
3/18/2020**

On 2-29-2020, Governor Jay Inslee declared a state of emergency due to the public health emergency posed by the spread of the coronavirus (COVID-19).

On 3-4-2020, Chief Justice Debra Stephens of the Washington State Supreme Court adopted Order No. 25700-B-602, granting emergency authority upon all Washington Courts to adopt, modify, and/or suspend court rules and orders, and to take further actions concerning court operations, as warranted to address the current state of emergency.

On March 12, 2020 Bremerton Mayor Greg Wheeler proclaimed an emergency within Bremerton, encouraging all local government agencies and institutions to immediately implement any and all proactive measures to help slow/stop the spread of this virus.

On 3-16-2020, Governor Jay Inslee imposed additional restrictions prohibiting gatherings of more than 50 people statewide.

As of March 17, 2020 the Kitsap Public Health Department had identified at least 7 individuals in this county infected with the COVID19 virus, including one in Bremerton. That department and the Center for Disease Control have identified COVID-19 as a worldwide pandemic and have recommended we take any measures necessary to limit exposure to and help stop any further spread of this virus.

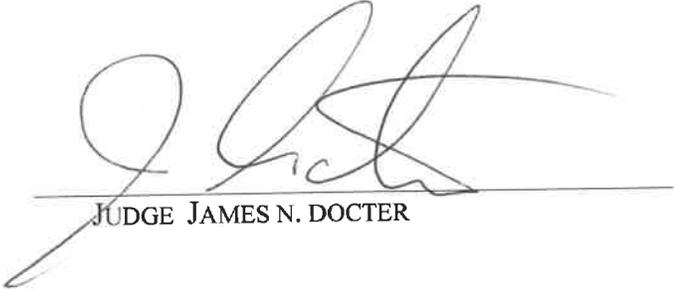
On 3-18-2020 Chief Justice Debra Stephens of the Washington State Supreme Court adopted Order No. 25700-B-606.

**NOW, THEREFORE, IT IS HEREBY ORDERED:**

1. All hearings, including trials, currently set in Bremerton Municipal Court will be rescheduled to a date set by the clerk sometime after April 25, 2020. Notice of the new dates will be sent to the defendant.
2. Until further notice, the Bremerton Municipal Court will be closed to public access. If a person contacts the court regarding a matter that needs immediate attention, the court will review the matter to determine if the emergency necessitates an in person hearing or can be done telephonically. Telephonic hearings are strongly preferred. This includes ex parte protection orders. Any granted Orders may be served upon the defendant/respondent by mail.
3. In custody hearings will continue to be heard by video each morning beginning at 8:00.
4. Court staff will be available by phone daily from 8:00-5:00.

**THIS ORDER WILL BE IN EFFECT UNTIL FURTHER NOTICE. IT IS SUBJECT TO CHANGE. It shall be posted on the city's website.**

DATED this 19<sup>th</sup> day of March, 2020.



JUDGE JAMES N. DOCTER



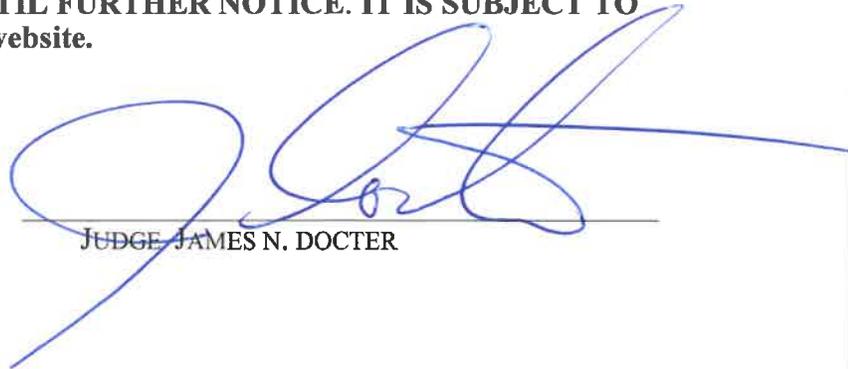
**NOW, THEREFORE, IT IS HEREBY ORDERED:**

1. Pursuant to Supreme Court order, speedy trial periods will be tolled while this Emergency Administrative Order is in effect, including but not limited to CrRLJ 3.3, CrRLJ 4.1, IRLJ 2.2, IRLJ 2.4, IRLJ 2.6, and any other applicable court rule.
2. All jury trials are suspended until this Order is lifted. Jury trials currently set shall remain on the Thursday calendar, and shall be reset at that hearing. For those defendants experiencing flu like symptoms, or who have other health concerns this may be done telephonically. Any new jury trials will be set to a reasonable date, based upon the best data/information available to the court.
3. Beginning March 17, 2020 and until further notice, Bremerton Police Department has decided not to transport any defendants from the Kitsap County jail to BMC. Therefore, those defendants who are held in custody will only be seen on video for their pre-trial hearings.
4. Out of custody arraignments calendars will be reviewed by the Prosecutor and court staff. DV and DUI charges will be heard as scheduled. The Prosecutor will notify the court if their intention is to amend any of the charges to an infraction. Notice will be sent to the defendant. Currently set arraignments will be scheduled to allow for social distancing. Any cases that do not currently have an arraignment date will be set after April 30, 2020.
5. Compliance and fact finding hearings will be reviewed by the court. If appropriate, the court will reset the hearing with notice to issue of the new date. If the violation needs immediate attention, the hearing will remain as set or be reset on another calendar to allow for social distancing.
6. Pretrial hearings will remain as currently scheduled. Defendants experiencing flu like symptoms or other health concerns may contact the court to request their hearings be rescheduled. Attorneys may sign an Order of Continuance through oCourts. Their signature signifies their client agrees to the continuance, is aware the previously set conditions remain in effect, and promises to appear in court as directed in the continuance order.
7. All contested and mitigation hearings will be reset by the court with notice to issue. The defendant will have the option to request a mitigation or contested hearing by mail if they want to avoid an in person appearance.
8. The courthouse will close daily from 12:00 – 1:00 pm and will close for the day at 4:30 pm while this Order is in effect.
9. The court will continue to hold hearings for Protection Orders and Firearm Surrender as requested by Petitioners and Respondents.
10. All motions to remit will be heard ex parte.
11. A defendant may request a bench warrant quash hearing be held by telephone.
12. A defendant may request a jail review hearing be held by telephone.
13. Probation appointments may be conducted by telephone at Probation's discretion.

14. Defendants with mandatory court hearings who don't notify the court of their health status and fail to appear for their hearing will be subject to issuance of a bench warrant.

**THIS ORDER WILL BE IN EFFECT UNTIL FURTHER NOTICE. IT IS SUBJECT TO CHANGE. It shall be posted on the city's website.**

DATED this 17<sup>th</sup> day of March, 2020.



JUDGE JAMES N. DOCTER