

FIFTH JUDICIAL DISTRICT

CLACKAMAS COUNTY COURTHOUSE 807 MAIN STREET, ROOM 310 OREGON CITY, OREGON 97045 DEBBIE D. SPRADLEY, TRIAL COURT ADMINISTRATOR Court Administrator 655-8670 Accounting / Collections 655-8453 Civil Case Unit 655-8447 Criminal Unit 655-8643

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Clackamas County Circuit Court COVID-19 Update for May 11, 2020

Out of concern for public health and preventing the spread of COVID-19, the Clackamas County Circuit Court has been operating under Level 3 restrictions to greatly reduce the number of people coming into court facilities. The court has been following the Chief Justice Order issued March 27, 2020, limiting the court to constitutionally and statutorily required proceedings.

As the court continues to adapt to the changing landscape surrounding COVID-19, more hearings can be conducted remotely an it can begin offering more services, including remote motions hearings for non-evidentiary issues.

As more changes are determined we will notify the community, the local bar, and post changes on the court's website: <u>https://www.courts.oregon.gov/courts/clackamas</u>

- Civil, domestic relations, and criminal motions that are <u>non-evidentiary</u> and can be conducted <u>remotely</u>, either by phone or video, may be rescheduled in Clackamas County Circuit Court by the docketing department or individual judges per Presiding Judge Order (PJO) 2020-15. These motions should last no longer than 30 minutes and are limited to oral argument only.
- Attorneys and parties for whom previously scheduled hearings were rescheduled for June or thereafter under Chief Justice Order (CJO) No. 20-006 (Amended) may contact the court to reschedule again to an earlier date if the hearing can be conducted remotely. Attorneys and parties may contact docketing and/or an individual judge who has already been assigned a complex trial or matter by the Presiding Judge to schedule these hearings.
- 3. Mediations continue remotely through <u>Clackamas County Resolution Services</u>, helping litigants resolve their cases with less time spent in the courthouse.

- 4. All case proceedings previously allowed per <u>CJO 20-006 (Amended)</u> and <u>PJO 2020-14</u> will continue as planned.
- 5. To take extra measures to protect the safety of people coming to the courthouses, sidewalks surrounding the courthouse are marked to indicate necessary spacing for social distancing so jurors and other court visitors can maintain a six feet distance between themselves and others. The court has increased cleaning in jury rooms, courtrooms and other areas of the court, and are maintaining social distancing by restricting seating spaces and changing its format for trials. The court strongly encourages anyone coming to the courthouse to wear a protective face covering while moving about the courthouse and will have face coverings available for jurors who do not have their own. There are hand sanitizer stations located throughout the courthouse, but individuals entering may bring their own sanitizing product if they wish.
- 6. In-custody criminal cases, including felony jury trials and motions hearings, are proceeding per PJO 2020-13.
- 7. Out-of-custody criminal proceedings that are not statutorily required have been set over to future dates.
- 8. All criminal matters will be heard remotely, if possible.
- 9. Custody and parenting time hearings will proceed as previously ordered unless filing a modification or enforcement action per PJO 2020-12.
- 10. Theft Talk and Community Service Work deadlines are extended per PJO 2020-11 and PJO 2020-8.
- 11. The court is now accepting trial exhibits via e-file to reduce the amount of paper circulating throughout hearings, therefore reducing potential exposure to COVID-19 and allowing remote hearings to run more smoothly. The court is also allowing electronic signatures on more e-filed documents per CJO 20-008.

QUESTIONS?

General questions can be referred to: cla.court.info@ojd.state.or.us