

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF THE STATE OF OREGON
FOR THE COUNTY OF CLACKAMAS

In the Matter of:)
)
Juvenile Dependency Remote and)
In-Person Hearings)
_____)
PRESIDING JUDGE ORDER
2021-15

Due to the COVID-19 pandemic and accompanying necessary restrictions on court operations, the Court has conducted most juvenile hearings remotely since the issuance of PJO 2020-07 on March 30, 2020.

On June 25, 2021, Governor Brown issued Executive Order 21-15, which extended the COVID-19 state of emergency to December 31, 2021, but otherwise rescinded earlier Executive Orders that had imposed statewide restrictions relating to protective face coverings, social distancing, capacity limits, and the county risk level framework.

On June 28, 2021, Chief Justice Walters issued Chief Justice Order 21-025, removing some restrictions previously placed on court operations. Pursuant to the authority granted in CJO 21-025 (3), and in following Chief Justice Order 21-030, requiring the use of protective face coverings in certain areas, and Chief Justice Order 21-035, requiring social distancing, IT IS HEREBY ORDERED:

1. Dependency Proceedings:

- a. In Person Hearings: The following juvenile dependency proceedings shall be conducted in person, unless ordered by the court. The court may allow parties, attorneys, and witnesses to appear by remote means as necessary.
 - i. Initial shelter hearings
 - ii. Admissions
 - iii. Dispositions
 - iv. All contested hearings, including jurisdictional trials, contested permanency hearings, TPRs.
- b. Remote Hearings: The following juvenile dependency proceedings shall be conducted remotely unless otherwise ordered by the court. To request an in person hearing a party must file a Motion for In Person Hearing with the Juvenile Court.
 - i. Removal of child when DHS has been granted custody, including both pre- and post-jurisdictional removals, regardless of whether contested
 - ii. Motions hearings
 - iii. Review hearings

- iv. Permanency hearings
- v. Dismissals
- vi. First appearance and status on termination of parental rights (TPR) petitions and permanent guardianship hearings.
- vii. Prima facie trials on a TPR petitions after a parent has been defaulted

2. Delinquency Proceedings:

- a. In Person Hearings: The following delinquency proceedings shall be conducted in person unless otherwise ordered by the court. The court may allow parties, attorneys, and witnesses to appear by remote means as necessary.
 - i. Out of custody preliminary hearings
 - ii. Admissions, regardless of custodial status
 - iii. Disposition of petitions, regardless of custodial status
 - iv. Contested hearings, including waiver to adult court motions and jurisdictional trials.
- b. Remote Hearings: The following delinquency proceedings shall be conducted in person unless otherwise ordered by the court. To request an in person hearing a party must file a Motion for In Person Hearing with the juvenile court.
 - i. In-custody preliminary hearings
 - ii. Probation violation hearings
 - iii. Conditional release hearings
 - iv. Pre-jurisdiction hearings that are not an admission

3. Oregon Youth Authority:

- a. The manner of appearance for youth in the legal custody of the Oregon Youth Authority will be determined by the court on a case by case basis.

4. This Order supersedes PJO 2020-13.

5. All Supplemental Local Rules and Uniform Trial Court Rules regarding juvenile dependency matters shall remain in effect.

6. Exhibits for trials or contested matters shall be filed electronically with the Court no less than seven (7) court days prior to the court hearing, pursuant to UTCR 11.110(1).

7. This Order takes effect on October 18, 2021.

DATED this 28 day of October 2021.



Kathie F. Steele
Clackamas County Circuit Court
Presiding Judge