

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF THE STATE OF OREGON
FOR THE 20TH JUDICIAL DISTRICT, WASHINGTON COUNTY

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| In the Matter of Imposing "Level 3" |) | PRESIDING JUDGE ORDER NO. 283CV |
| Restrictions on Washington County |) | |
| Circuit Court Operations in response |) | ORDER CONTINUING "LEVEL 3" |
| to the spread of COVID-19 Corona Virus |) | RESTRICTIONS ON WASHINGTON |
| |) | COUNTY CIRCUIT COURT OPERATIONS |

ORS 1.002(8) provides "...the presiding judge of each judicial district of this state are the administrative heads of their respective courts. They are responsible and accountable to the Chief Justice of the Supreme Court in the exercise of their administrative authority and supervision over their respective courts.

In accordance with the, Chief Justice Order No. 20-006, amended as of March 27, 2020, Governor Brown's Executive Order 20-12, and the on-going recommendations of public health professionals,

I HEREBY ORDER continuation of **Level Three** restrictions on Washington County Circuit Court operations as directed by Amended CJO No. 20-006 (Attachment A). These restrictions shall remain in place until further order. PJO No. 283CV supersedes PJO No.281.

Level 3 restrictions significantly limit the number of persons in Washington County Circuit Court facilities. Our continued goal is to do our part to help slow the spread of the COVID-19 Corona Virus and to minimize health risks to judges, court employees, attorneys, litigants, witnesses, interpreters, law enforcement and others who come to our courthouse, while meeting the courts' obligations to the public.

The court is doing its best to serve and protect this community. We will continue to evaluate and adjust as new information and guidance becomes available.

The Washington County Circuit Court will continue to provide limited and necessary legally required in-person services at a minimum staffing level during the period of these Level 3 restrictions:

- (1) Accept filings and cashiering;
- (2) Case processing for civil, criminal, family, juvenile, probate and traffic;
- (3) Calendaring;
- (4) Jury;
- (5) Judicial Support (i.e., courtroom staffing);

- (6) Records management; and
- (7) Court Administration (e.g., personnel, budget, financial accounting, information technology).

TRIALS/COURT PROCEEDINGS:

All trials and court proceeding not designated as essential Level 3 matters currently scheduled are postponed until at least June 1, 2020.

HOURS of OPERATION:

Washington County Circuit Court Clerk's Office reduced in-person business hours with minimum staffing levels shall be Monday-Friday, 10:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m., during the period of these Level 3 restrictions. All in-person services must be provided observing social distancing.

- (1) Phones shall be answered during reduced court business hours:
- (2) Where practicable, service may be provided remotely using technology.

SAFETY OF THE COURTHOUSE:

If a person seeking in-person services shows symptoms associated with COVID-19 Corona Virus, the court may refuse service to the person and direct the person to leave the courthouse. All persons in the courthouse shall observe six (6) feet of physical distance from others, as required to maintain required social distancing.

Dated this 30th day of March, 2020.



Beth L. Roberts, Presiding Judge
Washington County Circuit Court

In the Matter of Imposing Level 3
Restrictions on Court Operations
(AMENDED)

) CHIEF JUSTICE ORDER
) No. 20-006 (AMENDED)
)
) AMENDED ORDER IMPOSING LEVEL 3
) RESTRICTIONS ON COURT OPERATIONS
)

As Oregon's Chief Justice, I issued original Chief Justice Order 20-006 on March 16, 2020. During the time that the Oregon Judicial Department's Level 3 restrictions have been in place, I have received many comments on the restrictions and suggestions for improvement, but I have not received any counsel against the need for such restrictions. The emergency conditions that have resulted from the spread of the COVID-19 virus continue, as does Governor Kate Brown's emergency declaration. In addition, on March 23, 2020, Governor Brown issued Executive Order 20-12, which requires Oregonians to stay at home or at their place of residence to the maximum extent possible.

Given those considerations and the current thinking of those in the public health community, and after consulting with the courts' Advisory Committee and the Oregon State Bar, I am directing that courts immediately comply with these amended Level 3 restrictions on operations. These restrictions will remain in place until further order. If conditions change or if there is a need to do so, I may order further restrictions or ease restrictions on operations.

In addition, I am seeking legislative authority to (1) extend or suspend timelines currently set by statute or rule, and that apply after the initiation of both criminal and civil cases; and (2) ensure the ability to appear in court by telephone or other remote means in most circumstances. If that authority is granted, I intend to adopt a supplemental order exercising that authority.

Our goal is to continue to provide essential services while significantly minimizing the number of judges, staff, litigants and case participants, interpreters, and members of the public who come into our courthouses and offices. We must do our part to help slow the spread of the COVID-19 virus and to minimize any health risks to our communities, while meeting our courts' obligations to the public.

Therefore, effective immediately, I am requiring the Oregon Circuit Courts, the Oregon Appellate Courts, the Oregon Tax Court, and the Office of the State Court Administrator and its Divisions to comply with these amended Level 3 restrictions to significantly limit the number of persons in our courthouses and places of work.

STATUTORY AUTHORITY:

1. ORS 1.002 provides that the Chief Justice of the Oregon Supreme Court is the administrative head of the judicial department of government in this state; shall exercise administrative authority and supervision over the courts of this state consistent with applicable provisions of law and the Oregon Rules of Civil Procedure; and, to facilitate exercise of that administrative authority and supervision, may make rules and issue orders as appropriate or take any other action appropriate to perform the functions of the office of Chief Justice.
2. ORS 1.002(9) provides that the Chief Justice may delegate the exercise of any powers specified in ORS 1.002 to the Presiding Judge of a court.

3. ORS 1.171(4) provides that a Presiding Judge may delegate the exercise of any of the administrative powers of the Presiding Judge to another judge of the court or to the Trial Court Administrator for the judicial district.

I HEREBY ORDER, pursuant to that authority, that the following Level 3 restrictions on operations take effect immediately and remain in effect until further order of the Chief Justice.

1. Definitions. As used in this order:

- a. "High risk" includes the category of persons whom the Centers for Disease Control has identified as being at high-risk for serious illness due to COVID-19 and similarly situated persons. As of the date of this order, that category includes the following persons:
 - (1) Persons 65 and older;
 - (2) Persons with high-risk conditions including chronic lung disease or moderate to severe asthma or serious heart conditions;
 - (3) Persons with certain underlying medical conditions, particularly if not well controlled, such as diabetes, renal failure, or liver disease, and also chronic kidney disease or metabolic disorders;
 - (4) Persons with weakened immune systems, including from cancer treatment;
 - (5) Persons of any age with severe obesity (body mass index [BMI]>40);
 - (6) Persons who live in nursing homes or long-term care facilities; and
 - (7) Persons without housing.
- b. "Presiding Judge" means the presiding judge of a judicial district or any person to whom that judge has delegated authority under this order.
- c. "Remote means" means conducting a trial, hearing, proceeding, or other gathering by telephone, other two-way electronic communication device, or simultaneous electronic transmission.
- d. "Social distancing" means the minimum amount of physical distance between each person. The distance shall be determined by the social distancing requirements specified by an Executive Order issued by the governor. As of the date of this order, the distance is 6 feet between each person.

2. Trials

- a. In-custody defendants, right to speedy trial
 - (1) This subparagraph applies to trials for defendants who are in custody on one or more criminal charges that provide them with a statutory or

constitutional right to a speedy trial, where such rights have not been voluntarily waived, including defendants who have opted for bench trials.

- (2) A Presiding Judge may schedule such a trial to begin before June 1, 2020.
- (3) Absent a party's motion to postpone such a trial, the Presiding Judge shall consider whether to postpone each such trial scheduled to begin before June 1, 2020. The Presiding Judge shall not postpone such trials, unless that judge determines that postponement will not violate a statutory or constitutional right.
- (4) Each defendant whose case is being rescheduled shall have a right to an expedited hearing to address release issues, including, but not limited to, supervised release and security release reduction.

b. In-custody juvenile delinquency adjudications

- (1) This subparagraph applies to a juvenile delinquency adjudication when the youth is in custody.
- (2) The Presiding Judge may schedule such an adjudication to begin before June 1, 2020.
- (3) Absent a youth's motion to postpone such an adjudication, the Presiding Judge shall not postpone to a date later than June 1, 2020.
- (4) Adjudications that are held shall be conducted by remote means if reasonably feasible and permitted by law, including with the consent of the parties under ORS 419C.025.

c. All other jury and bench trials in criminal, civil, and other cases

- (1) This subparagraph applies to all trials other than those addressed in subparagraphs 2.a. and 2.b., including jury and bench trials in criminal, civil, family, and probate proceedings, and out-of-custody juvenile delinquency adjudications, but excluding trials in Forcible Entry and Detainer (FED) proceedings, addressed in paragraph 5.e.
- (2) Except as provided in subparagraph 2.c.(3), all such trials scheduled to begin earlier than June 1, 2020, shall be postponed, and no such trials shall be scheduled to begin before June 1, 2020.
- (3) A Presiding Judge may schedule a trial to begin before June 1, 2020, under subparagraph 8.a.
- (4) Trials that are held shall be conducted by remote means if reasonably feasible and permitted by law, including with the consent of the parties under ORS 131.045.

- (5) Each criminal defendant whose case is being rescheduled shall have a right to an expedited hearing to address release issues, including, but not limited to, supervised release and security release reduction.

3. Essential Proceedings

a. Category 1 essential proceedings -- generally, conducted in-person

- (1) The proceedings described in subparagraph 3.a.(2) shall be held on the date scheduled, unless postponed on motion of a party or by the Presiding Judge. Such proceedings may be scheduled to begin on a date before June 1, 2020. In such proceedings, parties are expected to appear in person unless the Presiding Judge orders that either the category of proceeding or the particular proceeding be conducted by remote means.
- (2) The following are Category 1 essential proceedings:
 - (A) The following criminal proceedings, when the defendant is in custody: arraignments, probable cause hearings, release hearings, probation violation hearings, plea hearings, sentencing hearings, aid-and-assist hearings, and any other hearing that will directly lead to the release of the defendant or the resolution of the case;
 - (B) Grand jury proceedings or preliminary hearings for felony indictments; and
 - (C) Civil commitment hearings.

b. Category 2 essential proceedings -- generally, conducted by remote means

- (1) The proceedings described in subparagraph 3.b.(2) shall be held on the date scheduled, unless postponed on motion of a party or by the Presiding Judge. Such proceedings may be scheduled to begin on a date before June 1, 2020. Such proceedings shall be conducted by remote means if reasonably feasible and permitted by law.
- (2) The following are Category 2 essential proceedings:
 - (A) In criminal proceedings:
 - (i) Case management and docket hearings; and
 - (ii) Out-of-custody arraignments on citations, within 30 days of issuance of the citation;
 - (B) In family and protective order proceedings:
 - (i) Hearings on immediate danger motions;

- (ii) Hearings on applications for orders of assistance to obtain custody of a child held in violation of a custody order;
 - (iii) Hearings on protective order applications, motions, and renewals (Family Abuse Prevention Act, Elderly Persons and Persons with Disabilities Abuse Prevention Act, Sexual Abuse Protection Orders, Extreme Risk Protection Orders, and stalking orders); and
 - (iv) Hearings on contested protective orders, including exceptional circumstances hearings;
- (C) In juvenile dependency proceedings:
- (i) Protective custody order applications;
 - (ii) Shelter hearings;
 - (iii) Jurisdiction and disposition hearings and trials, if constitutionally required;
 - (iv) Hearings on a parent's objection to the child's continued placement in substitute care; and
 - (v) Hearings on motions to dismiss, if constitutionally required;
- (D) In juvenile delinquency proceedings:
- (i) Delinquency in-custody initial appearances; and
 - (ii) For in-custody youth, 10-day detention review hearings and 28/56-day detention duration hearings;
- (E) In probate proceedings, temporary guardianships or conservatorships;
- (F) Specialty Court proceedings, but only if the Presiding Judge determines that those proceedings are necessary; and
- (G) Proceedings involving isolation or quarantine under ORS 433.123 and ORS 433.133, or isolation of contaminated property under ORS 433.142.
- (3) Subparagraph 3.b.(1) also applies to any other proceeding in which the Presiding Judge has determined, on motion of a party or on own motion, that the proceeding must be held before June 1, 2020.
- (4) Specialty Court proceedings conducted in person should be conducted in compliance with the public health directives issued by the Oregon Health Authority. Within the limitations presented by the current COVID-19 pandemic, specialty courts should work with community partners to

employ practices that best approximate recognized best-practice standards.

c. Category 3 essential proceedings -- generally, conducted by remote means

- (1) The proceedings described in subparagraph 3.c.(3) shall be scheduled in accordance with the policy developed by the Presiding Judge. The policy should take into account the local court's ability to operate with minimal staffing, the safety of court staff and the public, and any constitutional or statutory mandates for timely hearings. If permitted by such policy, such proceedings may be scheduled to begin on a date before June 1, 2020. Such proceedings shall be conducted by remote means if reasonably feasible and permitted by law.
- (2) Notwithstanding subparagraph 3.c.(1), a party may seek to have a Category 3 proceeding scheduled to begin at an earlier time than permitted by the local policy, and the Presiding Judge may so order, if, after consulting with the parties and other affected persons, the Presiding Judge determines that the trial, hearing, conference, or proceeding should occur within that time frame; that it can be conducted by remote means or that sufficient social distancing can be maintained if conducted in person, and that the Presiding Judge can order other reasonable precautions to protect the health of the participants, including interpreters and court staff.
- (3) The following are Category 3 essential proceedings:
 - (A) In civil proceedings, case management hearings and temporary restraining order hearings, when the request seeks to address an irreparable immediate harm;
 - (B) In family law proceedings:
 - (i) Hearings on pre-judgment and post-judgment status quo matters;
 - (ii) Hearings on motions to enforce parenting time;
 - (iii) Any hearing the Presiding Judge deems necessary to hold in the interest of the public's health; and
 - (iv) Family law facilitation and mediation;
 - (C) In juvenile dependency proceedings:
 - (i) Jurisdiction and disposition hearings and trials, if not constitutionally required;
 - (ii) Permanency hearings;

- (iii) Hearings on motions to dismiss, if not constitutionally required; and
- (iv) Hearings on motions by parents for visitation/parenting time.

4. Non-Essential Proceedings

a. Court proceedings

- (1) All proceedings not addressed in paragraphs 2, 3, or 5 scheduled to begin earlier than June 1, 2020, shall be postponed. No such proceedings shall be scheduled to begin before June 1, 2020.
- (2) Notwithstanding subparagraph 4.a.(1), a party may seek to have a non-essential proceeding scheduled for a time earlier than June 1, 2020, and the Presiding Judge may so order, if, after consulting with the parties and other affected persons, the Presiding Judge determines that the trial, hearing, conference, or proceeding should occur within that time frame; that it can be conducted by remote means or that sufficient social distancing can be maintained if conducted in person; and that the Presiding Judge can order other reasonable precautions to protect the health of the participants, including victims, interpreters, and court staff.

b. Ancillary proceedings

- (1) Except as provided in subparagraphs 4.b.(2) and (3), ancillary proceedings shall be postponed or limited to the extent the underlying court proceeding is itself postponed or limited by these Level 3 restrictions and this court order.
- (2) The arbitrator, mediator, or person presiding over the ancillary proceeding has authority to order that a particular proceeding take place, if the person presiding, after consulting with the parties and other affected persons, determines that there is a need for an in-person ancillary proceeding, that social distancing can be maintained if not conducted by remote means, and that the person presiding can order other reasonable precautions to protect the health of the participants, including interpreters and court staff.
- (3) The Presiding Judge may order that certain ancillary proceedings continue, including family law facilitation and mediation.
- (4) "Ancillary proceeding" means any court-annexed mandatory or voluntary arbitration conducted in-person, or a mediation, settlement conference or similar in-person settlement effort associated with a pending court proceeding.

5. Forcible Entry and Detainer (FED) Proceedings

- a. Each court shall permit a plaintiff to file an FED complaint, and the court shall issue a summons for service by the plaintiff, unless prohibited by law. The complaint and the summons shall be in the form required by law and subparagraph 5.c.
- b. All first appearances under ORS 105.137 shall be postponed without the need for a motion. No party shall be required to appear on the date set by summons for the initial first appearance, and no answer shall be required at that time. Although not required, the court shall allow a defendant to file an answer before the rescheduling of any first appearance.
- c. Attachment A to this order sets out a form explanation of the first appearance postponement described in subparagraph 5.b (including translations). Unless the Presiding Judge authorizes an exception under subparagraph 8.a., the court shall attach to the summons described in subparagraph 5.a. an explanation of the postponement, in a form substantially similar to Attachment A (including translations).
- d. When the date for first appearance is rescheduled, or as otherwise directed, all parties shall appear in person at such rescheduled first appearances, on the date set. Subject to Chief Justice order, the court shall reschedule the case for a first appearance to take place after June 1, 2020, and shall notify all parties by first class mail of the time, date, and place of the rescheduled first appearance, except that lawyers who are Oregon State Bar members may be notified by email.
- e. All trials under ORS 105.137(6) scheduled to begin before June 1, 2020, shall be postponed, and no trial shall be scheduled to begin before that date. A landlord who wishes to have the court enter an order that a defendant pay rent pending trial shall file a motion for such an order.
- f. Notwithstanding subparagraphs 5.b. and 5.e., a Presiding Judge may schedule a first appearance to take place or a trial to begin before June 1, 2020, under subparagraph 8.a.

6. Motions

- a. Unless a party has a constitutional or statutory right to have a motion heard in-person, a motion shall be heard by remote means.
- b. The provisions of the Uniform Trial Court Rules that require parties to request that certain motions be heard by telecommunication are waived:
 - (1) Certain motions in criminal cases under UTCR 4.050(2); and
 - (2) Certain motions in civil cases under UTCR 5.050(2).
- c. The Presiding Judge may grant a motion to appear in person upon a showing of a need to proceed, imminent harm, or other good cause.

7. Exhibits

- a. Notwithstanding UTCR 6.050(3) and UTCR 21.070(3)(p), when a trial, hearing, or proceeding is to be conducted by remote means, any exhibit that can be converted to PDF may be submitted through the court's electronic filing (eFiling) system.
- b. When submitting exhibits through the eFiling system, the filer shall designate the exhibits as described in UTCR 21.070(6).
- c. The submission of exhibits through the eFiling system must comply with UTCR 21.040(1), (2), and (4), to the extent applicable, except that the court may direct that multiple exhibits in a particular proceeding be submitted as separate eFiled documents.
- d. Exhibits submitted as a unified single PDF file under this paragraph must:
 - (1) Be accompanied by an index that identifies each exhibit, located at the beginning of the submission, and each identified exhibit must be electronically linked to the index; and
 - (2) Include an electronic bookmark for each exhibit.
- e. The court may reject submissions that do not comply with this paragraph.

8. Presiding Judge Authority

- a. Notwithstanding paragraphs 2 through 5, each Presiding Judge has discretion to order that a particular trial, hearing, or proceeding, or a first appearance in an FED proceeding, begin or take place before June 1, 2020, upon a determination, after consulting with the parties and other affected persons, that it should occur in that time frame, that it can be conducted by remote means or that sufficient social distancing can be maintained if conducted in person, and that the court can order other reasonable precautions to protect the health of the participants, including victims, interpreters, and court staff.
- b. Each Presiding Judge shall have authority to suspend any Supplementary Local Rule that may be an impediment to Level 3 operations, including any requirement that an *ex parte* submission be made in person.

9. All Other Court Services

- a. The public shall be able to access all circuit courts, the Oregon Tax Court, and the Oregon Appellate Courts. Each Presiding Judge shall determine an appropriate means of ensuring access, so that each court continues to provide justice services in the local community, including time-sensitive service when required.

- b. Each Presiding Judge shall ensure that:
- (1) The court provides information about how it will provide justice services under subparagraph 9.a., including how to file documents with the court and how to contact the court, in a telephone message on the court's main phone line, in a prominent place on or near its courthouse doors, and on its website;
 - (2) The information described in subparagraph 9.b.(1) is also communicated to local community partners, local bar associations, and media outlets;
 - (3) The court answers telephones during its business hours or otherwise develops a method for responding in a timely manner to messages received; and
 - (4) If needed, the court provides a drop-box for the filing of documents with the court.
- c. Courts shall continue to provide essential services when they can do so while maintaining social distancing. Essential services include the following:
- (1) Receiving court filings and payments;
 - (2) Issuing notices, orders, and judgments;
 - (3) In family law cases, signing stipulated orders and judgments;
 - (4) Maintaining the court's register of actions or case register; and
 - (5) Additional services that the court deems essential.
- d. If any person in a courthouse exhibits symptoms associated with COVID-19, the Presiding Judge may direct the person to leave the courthouse.

10. Requirements for Proceedings Held in Person

For all trials, hearings, proceedings, and for any other court services taking place in person, the court and court staff shall, considering the need for safety measures, take the following precautions:

- a. Require social distancing;
- b. Maintain vigilance about cleaning in accordance with other OJD guidelines; and
- c. Require any other reasonable precautions to protect the health of all participants, including victims, interpreters, and court staff.

11. Remote Work Assignments

- a. All judges and staff shall be assigned to work from home, or otherwise directed not to work in the courthouse or other workplace, unless the Administrative

Authority directs that they be in the courthouse or the workplace to provide court or other services in accordance with these Level 3 restrictions. The Administrative Authority should avoid directing persons in high-risk categories, or those with good cause, to work in the courthouse or other workplace.

- b. "Administrative Authority" means a Presiding Judge, a Trial Court Administrator, the State Court Administrator, a Division Director, or, in the Appellate Courts, any other judge or employee so designated in writing by the Chief Justice or Chief Judge.

12. Expectations for Attorneys

When in-person trials, hearings, or proceedings are held, except as otherwise provided in subparagraph 15.a., attorneys shall appear in person, unless the attorney is excused or the Presiding Judge has adopted a procedure that allows attorneys to appear by remote means. An attorney who has concerns about appearing in person due to COVID-19-related issues should seek to be excused; request either a postponement or an appearance by remote means if desired, reasonably feasible, and permitted by law; and, if necessary, take steps to help the client find suitable counsel. A request for postponement or appearance by remote means due to concerns about COVID-19 should be granted.

13. Meetings, Conferences, and Travel

- a. No in-person meetings or conferences of more than 5 people may be held, except as authorized by the Presiding Judge, State Court Administrator, or designee. Judges and staff should hold or attend meetings of 5 or fewer persons only after weighing the benefits and risks, and considering the available alternatives. Participants shall maintain social distancing. Those who do not participate in person should try to attend by remote means.
- b. All other meetings and conferences should be conducted by remote means.
- c. All in-state and out-of-state work-related travel is prohibited, except as authorized by the State Court Administrator or designee.

14. Public Safety and Community

- a. Courts should work with attorneys and their local bar associations to ensure that every possible opportunity to reduce risk and preserve the function of Oregon courts has been identified and explored.
- b. Courts should work with the Criminal Justice Advisory Committee, their Local Public Safety Coordinating Councils, and other stakeholder groups to explore criminal justice system issues and ensure the health of those who are incarcerated and coming to court.
- c. Courts should explore alternatives to current arrest and detention policies, including the use of cite-in-lieu of arrest where appropriate, to keep jail populations at a minimum.

15. Persons Held In-Custody in County Jail

- a. A Presiding Judge shall permit an attorney wishing to be heard on a motion for release to appear by remote means when reasonably feasible and permitted by law.
- b. Each Presiding Judge should work with the local district attorney's office, criminal defense attorneys, sheriff's office, and community corrections department or other agency to identify persons housed in their jails who can be safely released or are eligible for release, including release under ORS 137.520 and ORS 137.750, for the purpose of managing the jail population by reducing those jail populations.

16. Fines, Fees, and Costs

As permitted by law, courts are strongly encouraged to waive or suspend fines, fees, and costs for persons with limited financial resources.

17. Appellate Courts, Tax Court, and Office of the State Court Administrator

a. Appellate Courts

- (1) The Level 3 restrictions and other requirements described in paragraphs 9, 10, 11, 12, 13, 14, and 18 apply, to the extent practicable, to the Supreme Court and the Court of Appeals. To the extent that those courts are able to continue to conduct their ordinary operations using remote services and remote means, they should do so.
- (2) The Chief Justice of the Supreme Court and the Chief Judge of the Court of Appeals may delegate authority to take actions under this order.

b. Tax Court

- (1) The Level 3 restrictions and other requirements described in paragraphs 6, 7, 9, 10, 11, 12, 13, 14, and 18 apply, to the extent practicable, to the Tax Court. To the extent that the Tax Court is able to continue its ordinary operations using remote services and remote means, unless provided otherwise in this subparagraph, it should do so.
- (2) Except as provided in subparagraph 17.b.(3), the Tax Court Judge shall postpone all proceedings, with no proceedings scheduled to begin before June 1, 2020.
- (3) The Tax Court Judge may schedule a proceeding to begin before June 1, 2020, if the judge determines that the trial, hearing, or proceeding can be conducted by remote means, considering all participants including court staff; or otherwise determines that the proceeding should occur within that time frame and sufficient social distancing can be maintained, and the judge can take other reasonable precautions to protect the health of the participants, including interpreters and court staff.

- (4) The Tax Court Judge may delegate authority to take actions under this order.
 - c. (1) The Level 3 restrictions described in paragraphs 9, 10, 11, 12, 13, 14, and 18 apply, to the extent practicable and except as described in subparagraph 17.c.(2), to the Office of the State Court Administrator and the Divisions within that Office.
 - (2) The Citizen Review Board shall schedule and conduct periodic reviews of cases involving children in foster care using only remote means during the period of these Level 3 restrictions.
18. Notice and Communication
- Presiding Judges, Trial Court Administrators, and the State Court Administrator and designees must work together to:
- a. Use all reasonable means to inform judges, staff, lawyers, and the public of these restrictions; and
 - b. Post information about these restrictions and local court operations on court websites or in other publicly available locations.
19. These Level 3 restrictions are to be in effect immediately and will continue until further order. They may be extended by further order, or they may be amended by further order.
20. This order amends and supersedes original Chief Justice Order 20-006, issued on March 16, 2020. This amended order takes effect immediately.

Dated this 27th day of March, 2020.



Martha L. Walters
Chief Justice