

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

In the matter of the Lincoln County)
Courtthouse and the COVID-19 Virus)

PRESIDING JUDGE ORDER [3/31/20]
No. 20-03 (Amended)

As a matter of protecting public health and trying to contain the spread of COVID-19, the Lincoln County Circuit Court is implementing the following changes to the normal operation of the Court and in accordance with the Chief Justice Order No. 20-006 (amended March 27, 2020) (Attachment A), Lincoln County Circuit Court is imposing "Level 3" restrictions on court operations:

NOW, THEREFORE, IT IS ORDERED, commencing immediately, and until CJO 20-006 (amended) is no longer in effect, the following will be implemented:

Court Hearings

1. Criminal

- a. All out-of-custody criminal trials are being continued on the Court's own motion. All trial status hearings for out-of-custody criminal trials prior to June 1, 2020 will also be canceled and re-set. All currently scheduled out-of-custody trials will be re-set to dates on or after June 1, 2020.
- b. Trials for in-custody defendants with speedy trial limitations will proceed as scheduled consistent with the CJO 20-006.
- c. "Essential proceedings" which shall be conducted in person include: pleas & sentences, probation violation admissions and sentences, preliminary hearings and trials. "In person" means that both the assigned Deputy District Attorney and the defense attorney shall appear in person in the courtroom. The DDA shall furnish a copy of the CCH, driving record, restitution and victim impact statement to the Court electronically. Defense counsel shall submit a plea petition and any supportive letters or documents electronically. All of these submissions shall occur early enough so that the Court staff has time to route such information to the Judge prior to the hearing.
- d. All other hearings, which include, but are not limited to, arraignments, release hearings, status hearings, aid and assist hearings and motions to modify probation or release, shall be conducted by remote means. Counsel will call the courtroom at 541-265-4236 ext 8504 and will be transferred into the courtroom at the time set for the hearing. Multiple persons will be on the line so please wait until you hear the case being called. Video conferencing may be

- utilized for other hearings and instructions will be given by the court prior to the hearing by court staff.
- e. All in-custody arraignments will occur at 1:15 p.m., Monday through Friday in courtroom 300.
2. Traffic/Violations
 - a. Traffic court trials and appearances scheduled to occur prior to June 1, 2020 will be re-set to dates after June 1, 2020.
 3. Small Claims
 - a. Small Claims hearings and trials scheduled to occur prior to June 1, 2020 will be re-set to dates after June 1, 2020.
 4. Civil Commitment
 - a. Hearings will be conducted in person in courtroom 305 as scheduled by courtroom 305.
 5. Juvenile Delinquency/Juvenile Dependency
 - a. Hearings shall be conducted as set forth in Attachment B.
 6. Drug Court
 - a. Drug Court proceedings are deemed necessary and will be conducted weekly.
 - b. Staffing for Drug Court will occur remotely. In-person members for staffing may not exceed 6 persons in the courtroom.
 - c. Drug Court in-person appearances shall observe social distancing standards and appearances will be staggered and/or reduced to maintain these standards.
 7. HOPE Court
 - a. HOPE Court is deemed necessary, but will only be conducted in person for participants who are reported to have been non-compliant since the last HOPE Court session or who have been arrested on a detainer or who are subject to formal probation violation allegations. All other participants will be required to appear remotely. Social distancing will be enforced during these proceedings.
 8. Wellness Court
 - a. Wellness Court is deemed necessary and will be conducted in-person, observing social distancing standards.
 - b. Staffing for Wellness Court will occur remotely. In-person members for staffing may not exceed 6 persons in the room.

9. Domestic Relations/Protective Orders

- a. Parties may continue to file pleadings and other documents, but no appearance will be scheduled until after June 1, 2020.
- b. Hearings on immediate danger motions or applications for orders of assistance to obtain custody of a child held in violation of a custody order may be scheduled prior to June 1, 2020, but will be heard by remote means.
- c. Motions for temporary relief pursuant to ORS 107.095 may be filed and may continue to be determined without hearing. Any hearing to contest the Court's ruling will not be scheduled while this Order is in effect.
- d. The Family Law facilitator will not be holding meetings, in person, with parties in domestic relations cases until at least JUNE 1, 2020. If parties are unable to complete the forms over the phone, they will have to wait until at least JUNE 1, 2020 for in-person assistance. The Family Law Facilitator will be available by phone appointment only to assist *pro-se* litigants in preparing domestic relations motions or proposed judgments.
- e. The Family Law facilitator will still help parties, by phone, regarding protective orders and immediate danger issues. Those parties will be expected to confer with the facilitator by phone, rather than in person. That is, the Petitioner needs to call 541-265-4236 from the hallway outside the T.C.A. office and be connected to the facilitator in the office.
- f. Ex-Parte applications for FAPA, EPPDAPA, SAPO, and Stalking will be heard each day as scheduled in courtroom 305. When feasible, these hearings will be conducted by remote means.
- g. First appearances for Respondents in Stalking, Immediate Danger and Expedited Parenting Time Enforcement proceedings will be conducted by remote means.
- h. Contested hearings in FAPA, EPPDAPA, SAPO, Stalking, Immediate Danger and Expedited Parenting Time Enforcement proceedings will be conducted by remote means.

10. Civil

- a. All general civil motion hearings and trials not listed in CJO 20-006 as **essential** will be rescheduled by the court for a date on or after June 1, 2020.

11. Probate

- a. Contested temporary guardianship and conservatorship hearings may be heard by remote means. All other probate filings will be processed without need for hearing.

12. FED

- a. All FED appearances and trials are governed by CJO 20-006 (amended).

Court Operations

1. If an attorney is ill, do NOT attend court in person. Please contact the court at 541-265-4236 ext. 8504 to receive instructions regarding scheduling.
2. If a client reports being ill to an attorney, the attorney should ask the Court for a continuance of whatever kind of hearing is on the docket.

If a continuance were granted and the client were to fail to appear at the rescheduled hearing in a criminal case, a bench warrant will be issued. Attorneys are not permitted to excuse a client from any Court hearing; approval by the Judge is required.

3. The Sheriff's office is also implementing health-protective measures related to booking and to who is admitted into the jail. Book and releases following arraignments will occur at locations specified by Lt. Russell and/or Sheriff Landers.
4. If an attorney is "high risk" as defined CJO 20-006 (amended), contact the Judge assigned to the case for accommodations related to the Court appearance.
5. Judge Sheryl Bachart is hereby delegated to exercise any authority of the Presiding Judge under CJO 20-006 (amended).
6. To the extent there exists any inconsistency between this Presiding Judge Order and Chief Justice Order 20-006 (amended), the latter shall control.
7. Hours of court operation are from 8:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m. and 1:00 p.m. to 5:00 p.m. Monday through Friday. There will be one judge available in the courthouse from 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. daily. Criminal proceedings will generally be held in courtroom 300, regardless of judge assignment. Social distancing will be enforced.
8. Court staff is reduced to the minimum necessary to conduct essential services. In-person filing of documents in Room 202 will not be allowed. Documents will be placed in the secure drop box located outside of Room 202. This box will be checked prior to 11:00 a.m. each day for filings for which immediate hearings are required. The box will be checked prior to 5:00 p.m. so any filings will be marked as received on the day in which they were placed in the drop box. Any other handling of documents received in the drop box will not be processed for 72 hours.

Exceptions to CJO 20-006

1. A party seeking an exemption shall make such request, in writing, to the assigned judge. E-mail requests or phone requests will not be considered. When exceptions are requested by counsel, a motion, affidavit and order shall be submitted. The affidavit should set for the exceptional circumstance(s) which warrant an exception to the CJO. The presiding judge shall consider those factors set forth in paragraph 8(a) of CJO 20-006(Amended) in making any exception for a hearing not covered under the terms of the Order. All requests will be decided by the presiding judge without hearing.

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that a copy of this Order shall be provided to the Chief Justice of the Supreme Court and shall be posted on the Lincoln County Circuit Court website.

Dated this 31st day of March, 2020.



THOMAS O. BRANFORD
Presiding Circuit Judge

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

ATTACHMENT A

[ADD OFFICIAL COUNTY CIRCUIT COURT NAME, LETTERHEAD OR SEAL]

NOTICE OF COURT DELAYS RELATING TO COVID-19 VIRUS

Due to the COVID-19 virus, Oregon Supreme Court Chief Justice Martha L. Walters has ordered that all Forcible Entry and Detainer (FED) first appearances in court be postponed, including the appearance that this Summons tells you that you must attend.

THE DATE SET BY THIS SUMMONS IS POSTPONED

The date set for first appearance by the attached Summons is postponed. You should not go to the courthouse on that date. There will be no penalties for not appearing on the date set out in the Summons.

You will receive a notice in the mail when court operations are no longer restricted. That notice will give you a new date and time to appear in court. Follow the instructions in that future notice. You may be required to appear at that time in person, by phone, or by some other electronic means.

You may contact the _____ County Circuit Court with questions at:

____ - ____ - _____ during the following hours/days: _____.

[Add the following in Spanish, Russian, Vietnamese, and others as appropriate and as can be provided by OJD's Court Language Access Services: "Your landlord is trying to evict you. The date set by the attached Summons is postponed. You should not go to the courthouse on that date. There will be no penalties for not appearing on the date specified in the Summons. You will receive a notice in the mail when court operations are no longer restricted. That notice will give you a new date and time to appear in court. Follow the instructions in that future notice. You may be required to appear at that time in person, by phone, or by some other electronic means. You may contact the _____ County Circuit Court with questions at: ____ - ____ - _____ during the following hours/days: _____."]

[ADD OFFICIAL COUNTY CIRCUIT COURT NAME, LETTERHEAD OR SEAL]

NOTICE OF COURT DELAYS

Relating to COVID-19 Virus

Due to the COVID-19 virus, Oregon's Supreme Court Chief Justice has ordered that all FED (Forcible Entry and Detainer) first appearances in court be postponed during this crisis, including the one that this Summons tells you that you must attend.

THE DATE SET BY THIS SUMMONS IS POSTPONED.

You should not go to the courthouse on that date. There will be no penalties for failure to appear on the date specified in the attached summons.

You will receive a notice in the mail when court operations are no longer restricted, which will give you a new date and time to appear in court. Follow the instructions in that future notice. You may be required to appear at that time in person or by phone or electronically.

You may contact the _____ County Circuit Court with questions at:

____-____-____ during the following hours/days: _____.

SPANISH

El propietario del inmueble busca desalojarlo. La fecha indicada en esta citación judicial ha sido postergada. No se debe presentar en el tribunal ese día. Quedará libre de toda sanción por no comparecer en la fecha indicada en el llamamiento judicial adjunto. Una vez que se normalicen las operaciones regulares del tribunal, le notificaremos la fecha y hora en la que tendrá que comparecer. Siga las instrucciones de esa notificación. Tendrá entonces que comparecer en persona, por teléfono u otro medio electrónico. Si tiene preguntas, puede comunicarse con el Tribunal de Circuito del Condado de _____ al: ____-____-____ en el siguiente horario: _____.

[ADD OFFICIAL COUNTY CIRCUIT COURT NAME, LETTERHEAD OR SEAL]

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____-____-_____ during the following hours/days: _____.

RUSSIAN

Внести следующее на испанском, русском и вьетнамском языках: «Ваш домовладелец пытается вас выселить. Дата, указанная в этой повестке, откладывается. Вы не должны приходить в здание суда в этот день. В случае неявки во время, указанное в прилагаемой повестке, штрафы не взимаются. Когда судебное производство больше не будет ограничено, вы получите уведомление по электронной почте, в котором будет указана новая дата и время для вашего появления в суде. Следуйте инструкциям в этом будущем уведомлении. От вас могут потребовать явиться в суд в это время лично, по телефонной или в электронной связи. Вы можете обратиться в окружной суд округа _____ с вопросами по адресу: ____-____-_____ в следующие часы/дни:

_____.

[ADD OFFICIAL COUNTY CIRCUIT COURT NAME, LETTERHEAD OR SEAL]

NOTICE OF COURT DELAYS

Relating to COVID-19 Virus

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You may contact the _____ County Circuit Court with questions at:

____ - ____ - _____ during the following hours/days: _____.

VIETNAMESE

Thêm những điều sau đây bằng tiếng Tây Ban Nha, tiếng Nga và tiếng Việt: “Chủ nhà của bạn đang muốn trục xuất bạn. Ngày được chỉ định trong trát tòa này đã bị hoãn lại. Bạn không nên đến tòa án vào ngày đó. Sẽ không có hình phạt cho việc không ra hầu tòa vào ngày được chỉ định trong tờ trát tòa đính kèm. Bạn sẽ nhận được một lá thư thông báo khi các hoạt động của tòa án không còn bị hạn chế, lá thư đó sẽ cho bạn một ngày và giờ mới để ra hầu tòa. Theo sự hướng dẫn của lá thư thông báo trong tương lai. Bạn có thể được yêu cầu ra hầu tòa tại thời điểm đó trực tiếp hoặc qua điện thoại hoặc điện tử. Bạn có thể liên lạc với Tòa Thượng Thẩm Quận _____ với các thắc mắc ở số: ____ - ____ - _____ trong những giờ/ngày như sau: _____.

ATTACHMENT B

Juvenile delinquency cases

1. First appearances for out-of-custody cases or PVs will be set on 6/2/2020 or later.
2. Detention hearings will be held following in-custody arraignments as usual.
3. Detention review hearings will be heard on Tuesdays at 8:30am. All parties are to appear by phone. The youth will appear by video.
4. Juvenile in-custody trials will continue to be held as scheduled and will follow all rules set by the Presiding Judge Order for adult criminal trials.
5. The court will require that everyone practice social distancing during any in-person appearances.
6. Any in-person court hearings will take place in courtroom 303 unless further instructions are given.
7. The court will not accept any physical documents at any hearing. All court reports or exhibits must be e-filed in advance of the hearing.

Juvenile dependency cases

1. Review and uncontested permanency hearings-
 - A. All post-jurisdiction review hearings and uncontested permanency hearings will remain as scheduled on the docket and will be heard by *telephone only*.
 - B. DHS shall provide the conference line information to all parties including attorneys, CASA, tribal representatives, grandparents and foster parents.
 - C. DHS is required to e-file a court report 10 days in advance of the hearing, as usual.
 - D. DHS is required to make notifications as usual of all telephonic hearings and make it clear that no in-person appearances will be allowed. If a party does not have the ability to appear by phone, DHS shall report any input from these individuals to the court.
2. Post-jurisdiction contested hearings
 - A. All post-jurisdiction contested hearings (including TPRs) will be rescheduled after 6/1/2020.
 - B. A party may request an earlier hearing only for substantial and compelling reasons. A formal motion is required. If the hearing requires in-person appearances, the motion will be reviewed by the presiding judge in accordance with the Chief Justice Order.
3. Pre-jurisdiction dependency cases
 - A. **Shelter Hearings:**
 - a) Shelter hearings will be scheduled as usual.
 - b) Parents and Parent and Child attorneys must appear in person at the shelter hearing unless telephonic appearance is approved in advance.
 - c) A single DHS representative may appear in person.

- d) All other witnesses or participants are to appear telephonically.
- e) DHS shall notify grandparents and foster parents that telephonic appearances only are permitted and provide the DHS Conference line.

B. Status Hearings:

- a) Tuesday 8:30am status hearings will continue to be held by telephone only.
- b) No in-person appearances are allowed for these hearings.
- c) Due to the difficulty with numerous parties appearing by phone, only the attorneys, DHS, CASA and tribal representatives are to appear at these hearings.

C. Admission / disposition hearings:

- a) Admission and disposition hearings will be held on Tuesdays by telephone only. If telephonic appearances are not possible, the hearing will be scheduled after 6/1/2020.

D. Jurisdictional trials:

- a) Contested jurisdictional trials will be held as scheduled
- b) All parties and witnesses shall appear by phone whenever possible.
- c) 7 days in advance of the hearing, all parties shall provide the court with a witness list that indicates whether the witnesses will be appearing in-person, by video or by phone. If a witness is appearing in person, the party shall provide an explanation of why remote testimony is not possible.
- d) A party may request a continuance if they feel in-person appearances of witnesses are necessary for their case or constitutionally required.
- e) The court will only allow the parties and those with a right to be present (grandparents, foster parents, children) to observe the hearings. DHS shall encourage these parties to appear telephonically and notify the court if any are planning to be present in person.
- f) The court will strictly enforce social distancing for all individuals in the courtroom.
- g) The parties shall follow the PJO in regards to the handling of exhibits in trial.