

IN THE MUNICIPAL COURT
FOR THE CITY OF MONROE

IN THE MATTER OF)	ADMINISTRATIVE ORDER
)	
Emergency Response)	No. 2020-01
To COVID-19 and)	
Threat to Public Health)	

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

On March 4, 2020, Washington State Supreme Court Chief Justice Debra Stephens 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 public health emergency.”

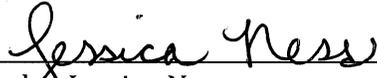
Accordingly, pursuant to the authority given this Court through the Washington State Supreme Court Order and GR 29, this Emergency Order is effective March 16, 2020 and shall remain in effect unless renewed, modified, or rescinded by the Monroe Municipal Court Judge.

NOW, THEREFORE, IT IS HEREBY ORDERED:

1. Traffic Infraction Hearings: All infraction calendars between March 16, 2020 and April 24, 2020 requiring a personal appearance are stricken and cases will be reset to a calendar after April 24, 2020. New hearing notices will be mailed by the Court. Hearings currently calendared for appearance on a written by-mail statement pursuant to IRLJ 3.5 will continue to be heard. The time for hearing provisions as set out in IRLJ 2.6 are suspended. Anyone who receives a notice of infraction is still required to respond to the notice of infraction within fifteen (15) days of the date the notice is personally served or, if the notice is served by mail, within eighteen (18) days of the date the notice is mailed.

2. Criminal Hearings:
 - a) Arraignments: Arraignments for DUI/Physical Control, Domestic Violence and Violation of Court Orders will continue to be heard. All other arraignments will be continued until after April 24, 2020. New hearing notices will be mailed by the Court. The Time for Arraignment provisions of CrRLJ 4.1 are suspended until further Order of the Court.
 - b) All criminal motions currently calendared are stricken and may be re-noted after April 24, 2020. The Court may consider Motions to Quash bench warrants ex-parte and waive quash fees.
 - c) All criminal cases currently pending are continued until after April 24, 2020. New hearing notices will be mailed by the Court.
 - d) All Jury Trials currently calendared are continued to a trial term after April 24, 2020.
 - e) The Court will continue to hear in custody cases as necessary to preserve defendants' constitutional rights.
3. Any hearings held on the record in Court will not be considered "open" for the purposes of the defendant's right to a public trial or the public's right to the open administration of justice. The defendant's right to a public trial and the public's right to open proceedings is suspended. Recordings of the court proceedings may be obtained. Any copy fees are waived.
4. Any State Court Rules that are inconsistent with the provisions of this Administrative Order are suspended during the effective time of this Order.

DATED this 16th Day of March, 2020



Judge Jessica Ness
Monroe Municipal Court