

IN THE SUPERIOR COURT OF WASHINGTON
FOR THE COUNTY OF WHATCOM

FILED
COUNTY CLERK

2020 MAR 19 P 12:40

WHATCOM COUNTY
WASHINGTON

IN THE MATTER OF RESPONSE TO PUBLIC
HEALTH RISK: DRUG COURT

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BY: SECOND _____
ADMINISTRATIVE ORDER
NO. 20-2-00001-37

WHEREAS, the state and this county are experiencing a rapid increase in the numbers of people showing symptoms of and being diagnosed with the current strain of coronavirus known as COVID-19; and

WHEREAS COVID-19 is known to be highly contagious and easily transmitted in public areas such as courtrooms, and the City of Bellingham has indicated that gatherings of more than ten people should be avoided; and

WHEREAS the Governor of the State of Washington has declared a State of Emergency due to the COVID-19 outbreak; and the Whatcom County Executive has declared a Public Health Emergency due to the COVID-19 outbreak; and

WHEREAS, the Washington State Supreme Court has adopted Order No. 25700-B-602 granting this Court emergency authority to adopt, modify, and suspend court rules and orders, and to take further actions concerning court operations, as warranted to address the current state of emergency;

WHEREAS, the Washington State Supreme Court has adopted Order No. 25700-B-606, ordering that all pending criminal matters, with some exceptions, be continued to a date after April 24, 2020, but also authorizing additional orders tailored to the unique circumstances of other matters not encompassed in the Supreme Court Order;

WHEREAS, Whatcom County Superior Court Drug Court is a matter not encompassed specifically in the Supreme Court Order;

NOW, THEREFORE, IT IS HEREBY ORDERED:

Drug Court participants, both in custody and out of custody, may be required by the Court to appear for a court hearing, but such hearing shall be conducted by video or telephone. Case managers will instruct participants if they need to appear telephonically in court.

Unless specifically instructed to appear by their case manager, drug court participants should not appear in court.

This order is in effect until April 24, 2020, unless extended by the Court.

DATED this 19th day of March, 2020.



Deborra Garrett, Presiding Judge