

IN THE LYNNWOOD MUNICIPAL COURT  
STATE OF WASHINGTON, COUNTY OF SNOHOMISH

IN RE COVID-19 PUBLIC HEALTH )  
EMERGENCY ) GENERAL ORDER 2021-02  
\_\_\_\_\_ )

WHEREAS the state of public-health emergency proclaimed by Governor Inslee on 29 February 2020 continues and worsens, and

WHEREAS the Supreme Court of Washington has authorized the Presiding Judges of the District and Municipal Courts to suspend court rules as necessary to promote the public safety while keeping the courts as open as possible, and

WHEREAS the latest indicators demonstrate that there is unreasonable danger in opening courthouse doors and resuming pre-pandemic operations, and

WHEREAS this court has taken steps to ensure continued access to justice while protecting the public safety,

NOW, THEREFORE, this Court modifies and extends its previous emergency orders as follows:

1. Jury trials are suspended until after 31 December 2021. It is not physically possible to gather a venire, empanel a jury and allow that jury to deliberate, while maintaining the social-distancing measures required by the pandemic. The time-for-trial rules pertaining to criminal cases is suspended accordingly.
2. In-custody criminal cases will continue to be heard by video and/or telephonic link at 0800 and 0900 on every court day and at such other times as may be ordered by the court.
3. Out of custody criminal and civil infraction cases will be heard by video and/or telephonic means primarily. For good cause, in-person hearings will be permitted with appropriate precautions.
4. Conditions of release, including no-contact orders, orders to surrender firearms, orders to install and use an ignition interlock device and/or to attach an alcohol-sensing device on one's body will be mailed or e-mailed to the defendant at the conclusion of the video/audio hearing.
5. All video and/or telephonic hearings will be recorded, and the recordings made available to the public through the court's website. All video and/or telephonic hearings will be "broadcast" over the Internet.
6. Agreed motions may be submitted to the Court in writing without the defendant's signature provided that the defendant agrees to them. Defense counsel will provide notice of new trial or hearing dates to their clients.
7. The Probation Department will remain open and will conduct its contacts with defendants by telephone, ZOOM, mail and e-mail. At the department's discretion, defendants may be directed to appear in person.

9. These emergency provisions remain in effect until further order of this court.

10. For purposes of semantic clarity, neither this order nor any of the previous emergency orders “close” the court. The court remains “open” to conduct its proper business. It is simply open in a different way, to take into account the public-health emergency. Because the city has inadequately staffed the court to respond to this emergency, the court’s front desk may be closed from time to time and/or will be open for more limited hours. This will continue until adequate staffing is restored. Business which would normally be conducted at the front counter face-to-face may be conducted by telephone, by mail or over the Internet.

DONE this 7th day of September, 2021.

STEPHEN E. MOORE  
Presiding Judge

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'S. Moore', written in a cursive style.