

IN THE POULSBO MUNICIPAL COURT

IN RE THE POULSBO MUNICIPAL COURT
AND THE PANDEMIC OUTBREAK OF THE
CORONAVIRUS DISEASE 2019 (COVID-19)

NO. 2022-01
EMERGENCY ADMINISTRATIVE
ORDER

THIS ADMINISTRATIVE ORDER is being issued in response to the current pandemic outbreak of the Coronavirus Disease 2019 (COVID-19).

WHEREAS, the findings of this Court contained in Emergency Administrative Order 2020-05 continue to remain true and are therefore incorporated as court findings into this Emergency Administrative Order 2022-01;

WHEREAS, the Kitsap Public Health District continues to report a high level of COVID-19 cases in Kitsap County following the holiday season;

WHEREAS, while Poulsbo Municipal Court continues to take appropriate steps to make our court environment safe, this court is convinced that disruptions with jury service are likely based upon the lack of control the Court has beyond our city environment and that conducting jury trials at this time would be potentially detrimental to jurors, court staff, counsel and defendants;

WHEREAS, the Poulsbo Municipal Court is a very small court, located within the Poulsbo City Hall, that requires litigants, attorneys, and court staff to work in extremely close quarters while attending court hearings. Social distancing is not possible at the Poulsbo Municipal Court. In order to promote the public health goals identified by public officials, and promote the health and safety of users and staff at the court, it is necessary to modify operations and reduce in-person attendance at the Poulsbo Municipal Court during the declared public health emergency;

WHEREAS, the increase in the spread of COVID-19 is an unavoidable or unforeseen circumstance affecting the time for trial beyond the control of the Court or the parties.

NOW, THEREFORE, it is hereby

ORDERED that effective today and until further order of the court –

All criminal jury and bench trial shall be suspended through February 2, 2022, in Poulsbo Municipal Court. All currently scheduled court dates remain calendared.

Further, all other terms of Emergency Administrative Order 2020-05 shall remain in effect until further order of the court, including, but not limited to, the tolling of speedy trial.

DATED – January 3, 2022

Jeffrey L. Tolman, Presiding Judge
Poulsbo Municipal Court

