

FILED

MAY 07 2020

**KIMBERLY A. ALLEN
GRANT COUNTY CLERK**

SUPERIOR COURT OF WASHINGTON IN AND FOR GRANT COUNTY

IN MATTER OF RESPONSE TO PUBLIC)
HEALTH EMERGENCY RE:)
CORONAVIRUS/COVID-19)
_____)
EMERGENCY ADMINISTRATIVE
ORDER NO. 7

WHEREAS, the Chief Justice of the Washington State Supreme Court issued emergency Order No. 25700-B-602 on March 4, 2020 in response to a public health emergency, caused by the coronavirus/COVID-19, that affects the operations of the trial courts in the State of Washington; and

WHEREAS, in the past two months the Washington State Supreme Court has adopted additional emergency orders including Order Nos. 25700-B-607, 25700-B-614, 25700-B-615, 25700-B-618, 25700-B-620, and 25700-B-622, all of which affect trial court operations; and

WHEREAS, it has been brought to the Grant County Superior Court's attention that CrR 3.4 addresses video conferencing proceedings in criminal matters and a question has been raised regarding the applicability of CrR 3.4 to hearings held using the Webex platform; and

WHEREAS, this Court finds the hearings conducted via the Webex platform as set for in Grant County Superior Court Emergency Order No. 6 are hearings conducted and authorized pursuant to Supreme Court Order No. 25700-B-618 filed April 29, 2020, which encourages telephone and video hearings for public safety;

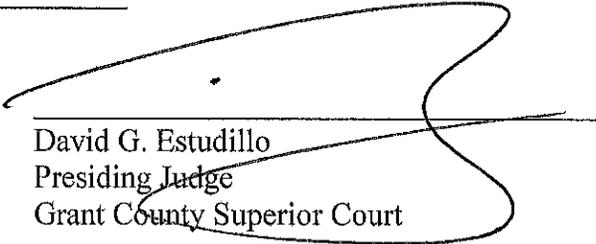
WHEREAS, Supreme Court Order 25700-B-602, paragraph 1 authorizes, "The Presiding Judge...to adopt, modify, and suspend court rules and orders, and to take further actions concerning court operations, as warranted to address the current public health emergency";

WHEREAS, to remove any confusion regarding the applicability of CrR 3.4 to hearings conducted using the Webex platform;

NOW, THEREFORE, IT IS HEREBY ORDERED:

1. To the extent potentially applicable, the procedure for video conferencing proceedings contained in CrR 3.4(d) and (e) are hereby suspended and will not apply to hearings conducted via the Webex platform by the Grant County Superior Court.
2. This Order is retroactive. This Order applies to all hearings conducted from the date the Webex platform was first used by the Grant County Superior Court and to all future hearings conducted via the Webex platform by the Grant County Superior Court.
3. The Court understands the pending public health emergency created by the Coronavirus/COVID-19 is a fluid situation that continues to develop on a daily and sometimes hourly basis. Accordingly, the Court will continue to review emerging developments and may issue further administrative orders as necessary.

ORDER DATED: 5/7/2020



David G. Estudillo
Presiding Judge
Grant County Superior Court