



David Neupert  
Judge

# CLALLAM COUNTY DISTRICT COURT I

COURTHOUSE  
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RE: District Court operations during public health emergency

Effective immediately, Clallam County District Court I implements the following procedures, relative to the public health emergency caused by the COVID-19 virus:

## A. Criminal matters

1. Out-of-custody defendants: a) who are of at least sixty (60) years of age, and have compromised immune systems due to heart disease, pulmonary disease, diabetes, or other current illness; and, b) other persons who are pregnant and/or experiencing symptoms of the flu or other respiratory infection or illness may appear by telephone for initial appearance, arraignment, or readiness hearing, PROVIDED the defendant provides a current, valid working phone number to the court at least 2 (two) court days prior to the scheduled hearing date. The court clerk will make one call to the defendant at the number provided during the calendar. For example, a defendant appearing by phone for initial appearance/arraignment starting at 9:00AM must remain available until the conclusion of the court calendar. A defendant who fails to answer when the court calls shall be treated as a failure to appear and a bench warrant may issue for their arrest.
2. Persons on probation meeting the above criteria may request telephone contact, which shall be considered on a case-by case basis by the probation department.
3. In-custody criminal matters will be set for pretrial hearings and trial as per the current scheduling practice under the 60-day speedy trial rule. At the court's discretion Out-of-custody matters may be scheduled on a 90-day track, with readiness and confirmation hearing, and trial dates set for additional 30 days beyond the 60-day schedule. All in-custody matters, including change of plea and sentencing, shall be conducted by video. Depending on the severity of the emergency, the court may toll speedy trial pursuant to Supreme Court of Washington Order 25700-B-602
4. The Court will not provide for hearings, by summons or otherwise, on DWLS-3 cases filed by citation or complaint after March 17, 2020.

B. Civil matters

1. Persons with previously scheduled traffic or other civil infraction hearings, who meet the above criteria regarding out-of-custody defendants, may contact the court at (360) 417-2561 or (360) 417-2453 to request to appear by telephone. Newly-issued citations will be scheduled for hearing within ninety (90) days. Persons who wish to request mitigation or deferral of an infraction, or to pay their ticket, may continue to do so by email via the District Court website:  
<http://www.clallam.net/DC1/trafficinfractions.html>
2. Small claims hearings will be scheduled within one hundred twenty (120) days from the date of filing.
3. Anti-harassment protection order matters will be scheduled as per statutory requirements. Personal appearance is required.

C. Jury service

Prospective jurors with symptoms of active respiratory illness or flu are excused from jury service for the following ninety (90) days. Persons 60 years of age or older, or who are pregnant, may contact the court at (360) 417-2561 or (360) 417-2453 to be excused from, or to reschedule, their jury service.

These procedures may be modified or rescinded by the Court, with or without prior notice.

DATED this 16<sup>th</sup> day of March, 2020

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "David Newport". The signature is written in a cursive, slightly slanted style.

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Judge, Clallam County District Court I