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4 DOUGLAS COUNTY DISTRICT COURT
STATE OF WASHINGTON
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6 In Re:)
7 EMERGENCY RESPONSE TO WASHINGTON) Emergency Administrative
STATE ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICE OF THE) Order No. 24-01
8 COURTS INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY)
SERVICE OUTAGE)
9

10 WHEREAS on November 3, 2024, the Washington State Administrative Office of
11 the Courts (AOC) notified courts across the State of Washington that a significant
12 disruption had occurred to information systems that are hosted by the AOC due to
“unauthorized activity on the Washington Courts network”;

13 WHEREAS Washington Courts, including Douglas County District Court, are
unable to access any systems or databases hosted by AOC including but not limited to
14 the Judicial Information System (JIS) and the Abstract of Driving Record (ADR), and
therefore have limited or no access to Washington State case information, Washington
15 State criminal history, Washington State Department of Licensing (DOL) records, and
Washington State Protection Order history;

16 WHEREAS, the Revised Code of Washington requires that judicial officers
consult certain databases prior to entering certain orders;

17 WHEREAS, the disruption to AOC systems has had a significant impact on court
18 operations and AOC has not identified a date on which access to all systems will
resume;

19 WHEREAS, because emergency procedures that have been implemented are
20 time consuming and require additional resources, the Court must take steps to limit its
operations and modify its processes to ensure that the most time sensitive matters can
21 proceed without delay;

22 WHEREAS, the Douglas County District Court has limited access to NCIC/III
nationwide criminal histories;

23 WHEREAS, on November 8, 2024 the Washington State Supreme Court
promulgated Emergency Administrative Order No. 25700-B-720 allowing Washington
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1 Courts to expand or extend time rules on criminal cases regarding filing, speedy trial,
2 sentencing, and out of custody arraignments, and speedy infraction filings, hearings,
3 and disposition, if the unavailability of the AOC networks and databases hinders the
4 local court's ability to meet said deadlines or process filings submitted by litigants, and
5 allowing courts to use other databases to get information not available via JIS or DOL
6 as required by statute;

7 WHEREAS, the following expansion and extensions of rules are necessary
8 because of the unavailability of the AOC networks and databases in order for Douglas
9 County District Court to meet deadlines, process filings submitted by litigants, and
10 effectively decide cases;

11 NOW THEREFORE, in order to continue the essential work of the Douglas
12 County District Court during the AOC system disruption, Douglas County District Court
13 adopts the following rules and procedures immediately and, on an emergency basis;

14 SUSPENDED COURT RULES

15 1. All court rules, policies, and procedures regarding filing, scheduling, docketing,
16 and transmitting information to AOC are extended by 30 days from the date of this order
17 or until the AOC judicial information systems are restored, whichever is later.

18 2. All time requirements of CrRLJ 3.3, CrRLJ 4.1, CrRLJ 4.7, IRLJ 2.1, IRLJ 2.6
19 (both civil infractions and vehicle related violations) and any other court rule, policy or
20 procedure governing 'time' is hereby extended for 30 days from the date of this order or
21 until the AOC judicial information systems are restored, whichever is later.

22 AFFECTED CASE TYPES

23 Because of the inability to access certain information systems, the Court is
24 unable and therefore will not act on the following types of motions/petitions for at least
14 days from the date of this order or until the AOC judicial information systems are
restored, whichever is later:

1. Name Change Hearings
2. Motion to Modify a Protection Order or criminal No Contact Order
3. Infraction Mitigation or Contested Hearings
4. Granting and/or reviewing compliance of a Deferred Finding on an Infraction
5. Granting of a Deferred Prosecution
6. Criminal law and motion calendars
7. Out of custody criminal arraignments, except for next day mandatory court appearances for domestic violence and DUI/Physical Control offenses

- 1 8. Criminal change of plea and/or sentencing hearings
- 2 9. Sentence Compliance, probation violations and/or other review hearings
- 3 10. Jury trials
- 4 11. Any other motion/petition that cannot statutorily be decided without a review of an AOC system or database that cannot currently be accessed.


5 DISCRETION TO CONTINUE A MOTION HEARING

6 The Court relies on AOC informational systems when ruling on many matters, even when it is not statutorily required to do so. The Court retains discretion to continue a motion hearing for which the judicial officer lacks vital information based on the AOC outage. This includes but is not limited to:

- 8 1. Civil motion hearings or trials
- 9 2. Temporary Protection Order hearings
- 10 3. Full Protection Order hearings

11 Therefore, it is hereby ORDERED that this Order will take effect on November 12, 2024, and will remain in effect for 30 days from the date of this order or until the AOC judicial information systems are restored, whichever is later.

12 DATED November 12, 2024.

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17 Judge Eric C. Biggar
18 Douglas County District Court
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