

IN THE DISTRICT COURT OF THE STATE OF WASHINGTON
IN AND FOR THE COUNTY OF MASON

IN THE MATTER OF) ADMINISTRATIVE ORDER
EMERGENCY RESPONSE TO PUBLIC) NO. 22-009
HEALTH THREAT)

WHEREAS:

1. This court has been operating under emergency orders since shortly after the pandemic began,
2. The Washington State Supreme Court has adopted emergency orders either ordering shutting down court operations or allowing each court to establish its suspension procedures, the most recent being 25700–B646,
3. The County was seeing a serious spike in Covid Omicron infections but it has now subsided;
4. After consultation with David Windom the suspension of in person hearings should start to be phased out.
5. The Court has successfully opened up certain criminal calendars.

NOW, THEREFORE, IT IS HEREBY ORDERED:

1. The Administrative order entered on or about June 11, 2020 is modified as follows.
2. All criminal cases will now transition to in-person, effective immediately.

Hearings where a party has been instructed to appear by ZOOM will still be heard over ZOOM unless the defendant appears in court.

3. ZOOM shall remain for the public to view proceedings if desired and to provide a means for a person to appear who would have significant difficulty in personally appearing for their hearing either due to their geographical location or illness.

4. The District Court staff, including the judge shall have the discretion in social distancing and utilizing LL2 for a holding area for excess number of defendants.

5. In custody cases will continue to heard by video, unless the court orders otherwise. The mask requirements will be as set by the Mason County Jail.

6. The protection order/anti-harassment order calendars will also transition to in-person hearings although parties will still follow what their notice of hearing said.

DATED this 25th day of April, 2022.



JUDGE