

FILED
APR 20 2020
COURT CLERKS OFFICE
SUQUAMISH TRIBAL COURT

**IN THE SUQUAMISH TRIBAL COURT
PORT MADISON INDIAN RESERVATION
SUQUAMISH, WASHINGTON**

**IN RE THE SUQUAMISH TRIBAL COURT)
AND THE PANDEMIC OUTBREAK OF) EMERGENCY ADMINISTRATIVE
THE CORONAVIRUS DISEASE) ORDER NO. 2020-4
(COVID-19)) SUSPENDING PAYMENTS ON COURT
) ORDERED PAYMENT PLANS
)**

This administrative order is being issued in response to the current pandemic outbreak of the Coronavirus Disease 2019 (COVID-19). Although for many this disease appears to cause only flu-like symptoms it can pose a serious and potentially lethal risk as exhibited by the increasing number of Washington deaths currently attributed to the disease. Governor Inslee declared a state of emergency. The Governor has issued a “Stay Home, Stay Healthy” order directing non-essential businesses to close, banning public gatherings, and requiring Washingtonians to stay home except to pursue essential activities through at least May 4, 2020. He has also closed all Washington elementary and secondary schools through the end of the school year.

In response to the COVID-19 public health emergency, the Suquamish Tribe has declared a Public Health emergency and has implemented a plan for temporary remote tribal governmental operations. This plan restricts access to tribal governmental buildings and limits governmental operations. On April 6, 2020, the Suquamish Tribal Council extended the plan for limited governmental operations to May 4, 2020. The plan is essential to minimize the spread of the COVID-19 virus. The Court previously issued a protocol to address issues relating to COVID-19. The Court is striving to address the needs of the

community, while taking every precaution to keep community members healthy and prevent the spread of the coronavirus.

Due to the pandemic, many people are not able to work and may be facing financial difficulties.

NOW, THEREFORE, it is hereby –

ORDERED that effective immediately and until further Order of the Court –

1. Any required payments on court ordered payment plans are suspended for April and May, 2020.
2. Fishing fine payment plans for those who were current with payments as of March 1, 2020.

Because payments are suspended for April and May, 2020, tribal members who were current on their fishing fine payment plans as of March 1, 2020, will be deemed current and will be able to obtain a sticker from the Court to show that they are in compliance with their payment plan and will be eligible to fish.

3. Fishing fine payment plans for those who were **NOT** current on their payments as of March 1, 2020.

For tribal members who were not current with their payment plans as of March 1, 2020, payments for April and May, 2020 will also be suspended. However, because these payment plans were not current as of March 1, 2020, these tribal members will not be deemed current in their payment plan and will not be eligible to fish. Should

tribal members who are in arrears, make payments through March, 2020, they would be current with their payment plans and then would be eligible to fish.

4. The suspension of payments for April and May, 2020, does not affect the total amount owed under any existing payment plan.
5. This order may be extended depending on the status of the COVID-19 public health emergency.
6. Should you have any questions or need assistance, please contact the court clerks by email at suquamishcourt@suquamish.nsn.us or by phone at 360-394-8697.

DATED THIS 20TH DAY OF APRIL, 2020

Cindy Smith

CHIEF JUDGE, CINDY K. SMITH

