

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

FILED

APR 30 2020

COURT CLERKS OFFICE
SUQUAMISH TRIBAL COURT

IN RE THE SUQUAMISH TRIBAL COURT)
AND THE PANDEMIC OUTBREAK OF) **EMERGENCY ADMINISTRATIVE**
THE CORONAVIRUS DISEASE) **ORDER No. 2020-4**
(COVID-19))
_____)

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. 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 27, 2020, the Suquamish Tribal Council extended the plan for limited governmental operations to May 15, 2020. The plan is essential to minimize the spread of the COVID-19 virus. 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.

NOW, THEREFORE, it is hereby –

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

1. The Emergency Order entered on April 9, 2020, remains in effect through May 15, 2020. The Court, will tentatively resume operations on May 18, 2020. This date may be revised depending upon the status of the COVID-19 public health emergency.
2. All bail hearings and arraignments for in custody defendants will be held in the time required by the tribal code.
3. The Court is available to hear all matters of an urgent nature, including requests for all types of protection orders and emergency child welfare orders.
4. Should the need arise for a hearing, in order to minimize the number of people attending court in person, the court will conduct video hearings, in all cases without exception, regardless of the health of the defendant/respondent, petitioner/attorney, or other parties. The Court does have the capability to connect attorneys and defendants on video/conference call.
5. Pursuant to administrative order 2020-1, speedy trial is tolled in all criminal cases. Criminal cases are continued until the Court resumes regular operations. This date may be extended depending upon the status of the COVID-19 public health emergency.
6. All jury trials are suspended. Jury trials will be rescheduled after the court resumes regular operations on May 18, 2020. This date may be extended depending upon the status of the COVID-19 public health emergency.
7. First Hearings in child welfare cases are emergency matters. Due to the public health emergency, all time requirements for Fact Finding and Disposition hearings are suspended. Unless an agreed Fact Finding Petition and Order is filed with the Court,

no Fact Finding Hearings will be scheduled until after May 18, 2020. The Court will issue orders scheduling these matters once regular operations are resumed.

8. The Court has rescheduled all civil and child welfare cases to June, 2020.
9. Probation appointments will be conducted by telephone only.
10. The Court will accept emailed pleadings and motions at suquamishcourt@suquamish.nsn.us
11. 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 30TH DAY OF APRIL, 2020

Cindy Smith

CHIEF JUDGE, CINDY K. SMITH

