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IN THE DISTRICT COURT OF THE STATE OF WASHINGTON  
IN AND FOR THE COUNTY OF CLARK AND THE CITIES OF VANCOUVER,  
WASHOUGAL AND CAMAS

In Re

COVID-19 MITIGATION IN CLARK  
COUNTY COURTHOUSE

ADMINISTRATIVE ORDER  
NO. GAO 2020-09

WHEREAS, the Governor of the State of Washington has declared a state of emergency in all counties of Washington due to the public health emergency caused by the Coronavirus Disease 2019 (COVID-19); and

WHEREAS, the Washington State Supreme Court has adopted Order No. 25700-B-625 (Filed May 28, 2020), suspending all civil and criminal jury trials until after July 6, 2020, in addition to granting emergency authority to this Court to adopt, modify, and suspend court rules and orders and to take further actions concerning court operations, as warranted to address the current state of emergency; and

WHEREAS, on March 23, 2020, April 2, 2020 and again on May 1, 2020, the Governor of the State of Washington has added additional restrictions on the citizens of the State of Washington due to the declared state of emergency concerning the Coronavirus Disease 2019 (COVID-19) with his Proclamations;

WHEREAS, this Court issued its Emergency General Orders 2020-01, 2020-02, 2020-03, 2020-05, 2020-06, 2020-07, and 2020-08 to respond to the state of emergency and mitigate the effect of COVID-19; and

NOW, THEREFORE, IT IS HEREBY ORDERED, EFFECTIVE IMMEDIATELY:

- 1. Any person who is sick or in quarantine shall not enter the Clark County Courthouse;

1 2. Staff and visitors are expected to practice good hygiene by washing hands frequently  
2 or by using hand sanitizer when hand washing is not practicable;

3 3. Frequently touched surfaces will be routinely cleaned with disinfectant;

4 4. Social distancing measures will be strictly enforced to the greatest extent practicable  
5 in all Courtrooms and public areas in the Clark County Courthouse. Courtrooms and  
6 court administration areas have been equipped with social distancing markers to  
7 illustrate appropriate distancing. Each individual courtroom will have a limited capacity  
8 due to social distancing.

9 5. All persons in the Clark County Courthouse shall be required to wear a mask while  
10 in the public areas in the building, unless exempted under paragraph 7 below. Any  
11 person who is not wearing a mask, and who refuses to wear an offered disposable mask,  
12 shall be refused entry by Courthouse Security staff. Courthouse Security staff may also  
13 remove any person ordered from the building for improper removal of a mask. Any  
14 person who believes that he or she is exempt from this requirement shall be directed to  
15 contact Court Administration.

16 6. During a court proceeding, the presiding judicial officer may direct an active  
17 participant to remove a mask, based upon a finding that removal is necessary to facilitate  
18 clear communication on the record, or to promote due process. For public safety  
19 reasons, removal shall be limited in scope and duration. "Active participant" includes  
20 the judge, court staff, an interpreter, a party, attorney for a party and a witness.

21 7. The following individuals do not need to wear a mask:

22 a) Any child aged two years or less;

23 b) Any child aged 12 years or less unless parents and caregivers supervise the use  
24 of face coverings by children to avoid misuse;

25 c) Any individual who has a physical disability that prevents easily wearing or  
26 removing a face covering;

27 d) Any individual who is deaf and uses facial and mouth movements as part of  
28 communication or an individual who is communicating with a person who is deaf  
and uses facial and mouth movements as part of communication;

e) Any individual who has been advised by a medical professional that wearing a  
face covering may pose a risk to that individual for health-related reasons;

f) Any individual who has trouble breathing or is unconscious, incapacitated, or  
otherwise unable to remove the face covering without assistance.

1 Clark County District Court may adopt further restrictions as necessary to respond to  
2 the current state of emergency in order to mitigate the effect of COVID-19 and will do so  
3 by further court order  
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5 Dated this 18<sup>th</sup> day of June, 2020.

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8 KELLI E. OSLER  
9 PRESIDING JUDGE  
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