

Superior Court of Clark County



SUPERIOR COURT OF THE STATE OF  
WASHINGTON  
FOR CLARK COUNTY

GENERAL ORDER 22-01

**JURY TRIAL SUSPENSION**  
**(JANUARY 6, 2022 TO JANUARY 30, 2022)**

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Adopted: January 6, 2022

Effective: January 6, 2022

WHEREAS, this Court has previously issued multiple Emergency General Orders to respond to the state of emergency and mitigate the effect of COVID-19 including when necessary suspension of jury trials.

WHEREAS, Clark County is experiencing a significant increase in the spread of COVID-19 due to the highly transmissible Omicron variant.

WHEREAS, Dr. Melnick, Director of Clark County Public Health, has recommended temporary suspension of jury trials due to the current rapid spread of COVID-19.

WHEREAS, the Court has instituted COVID-19 mitigation measures, including requiring masks to be worn in all public areas of courthouse facilities, to help protect the safety of jurors, attorneys, staff, litigants, and the public. At this time, these efforts are insufficient to safely accommodate jury trials.

NOW THEREFORE,

All criminal and civil jury trials are immediately suspended until January 31, 2022. Any jury trials that are ongoing at the time of this order shall proceed to conclusion.

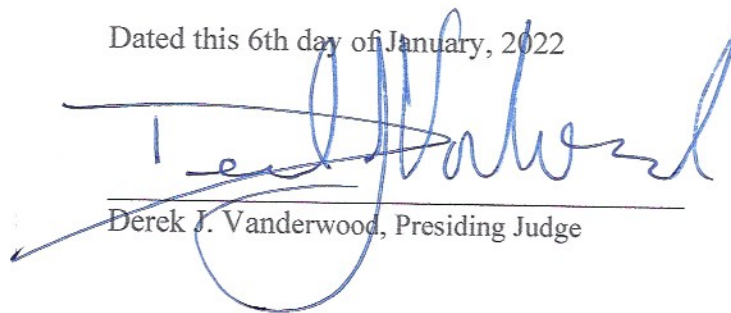
Trials set for January 31, 2022 will proceed with readiness hearings as currently scheduled (January 27, 2022 or as otherwise set).

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A continuance of criminal jury trials is required in the administration of justice. Based upon the Court's finding that the serious danger posed by COVID-19 is good cause to continue adult criminal jury trials and constitutes an unavoidable circumstance under CrR 3.3(e)(8), the time between January 6, 2022, and the next scheduled hearing after January 31, 2022, shall be EXCLUDED when calculating time for trial. CrR 3.3(e)(3).

The Court may extend the timeframes in this Order as required by the continuing public health emergency, and, if necessary, will do so by further order.

Dated this 6th day of January, 2022



Derek J. Vanderwood, Presiding Judge