

1
2 IN THE MUNICIPAL COURT FOR MERCER ISLAND
3 KING COUNTY, WASHINGTON
4

5 IN RE:)
6 EMERGENCY RESPONSE TO WASHINGTON) Emergency Administrative Order No. 24-01
7 STATE ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICE OF THE)
8 COURTS INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY)
9 SERVICE OUTAGE)
_____)

10 WHEREAS on November 3, 2024, the Washington State Administrative Office of the
11 Courts (AOC) notified courts across the State of Washington that a significant disruption had
12 occurred to information systems that are hosted by the AOC due to “unauthorized activity on
13 the Washington Courts network”;

14 WHEREAS Washington Courts, including the Mercer Island Municipal Court, are unable
15 to access any systems or databases hosted by AOC including but not limited to the Judicial
16 Information System (JIS) and the Abstract of Driving Record (ADR), and therefore have limited
17 or no access to Washington State case information, Washington State criminal history,
18 Washington State Department of Licensing (DOL) records, and Washington State Protection
19 Order history;

20 WHEREAS, the Revised Code of Washington requires that judicial officers consult
21 certain databases prior to entering certain orders;

22 WHEREAS, the disruption to AOC systems has had a significant impact on court
23 operations and AOC has not identified a date on which access to all systems will resume;

24 WHEREAS, because emergency procedures that have been implemented are time
25 consuming and require additional resources, the Court must take steps to limit its operations
26 and modify its processes to ensure that the most time sensitive matters can proceed without
27 delay;

28 WHEREAS, the Mercer Island Municipal Court Court has limited access to NCIC/III
29 nationwide criminal histories through probation or the prosecuting attorney;

30 WHEREAS, on November 8, 2024 the Washington State Supreme Court promulgated
31 Emergency Administrative Order No. 25700-B-720 allowing Washington Courts to expand or
32 extend time rules on criminal cases regarding filing, speedy trial, sentencing, and out of custody
arraignments, and speedy infraction filings, hearings, and disposition, if the unavailability of the
AOC networks and databases hinders the local court’s ability to meet said deadlines or process
filings submitted by litigants, and allowing courts to use other databases to get information not
available via JIS or DOL as required by statute;

1 WHEREAS, the following expansion and extensions of rules are necessary because of the
2 unavailability of the AOC networks and databases in order for the Mercer Island Municipal
3 Court to meet deadlines, process filings submitted by litigants, and effectively decide cases;

4 NOW THEREFORE, in order to continue the essential work of the Mercer Island
5 Municipal Court during the AOC system disruption, Mercer Island Court adopts the following
6 rules and procedures immediately and, on an emergency basis;

7 SUSPENDED COURT RULES

- 8
- 9 1. All court rules, policies, and procedures regarding filing, scheduling, docketing, and
10 transmitting information to AOC are extended by 14 days from the date of this order or
11 until two (2) days after the AOC judicial information systems are restored, whichever is
12 later.
 - 13 2. All time requirements of CrRLJ 3.3, CrRLJ 4.1, CrRLJ 4.7, IRLJ 2.1, IRLJ 2.6 (both civil
14 infractions and vehicle related violations) and any other court rule, policy or procedure
15 governing 'time' is hereby extended for 14 days from the date of this order or until two
16 (2) days after the AOC judicial information systems are restored, whichever is later.

17 AFFECTED CASE TYPES

18 Because of the inability to access certain information systems, the Court is unable and
19 therefore will not act on the following types of motions/petitions for at least 14 days from the
20 date of this order or until two (2) days after the AOC judicial information systems are restored,
21 whichever is later:

- 22 1. Motion to Modify a Protection Order or criminal No Contact Order
- 23 2. Granting and/or reviewing compliance of a Deferred Finding on an Infraction
- 24 3. Granting of a Deferred Prosecution
- 25 4. Any other motion/petition that cannot statutorily be decided without a review of an
26 AOC system or database that cannot currently be accessed.

27 DISCRETION TO CONTINUE A MOTION HEARING

28 The Court relies on AOC informational systems when ruling on many matters, even
29 when it is not statutorily required to do so. The Court retains discretion to continue a motion
30 hearing for which the judicial officer lacks vital information based on the AOC outage. This
31 includes but is not limited to:

- 32 1. Arraignment hearings
2. Sentencing hearings
3. Sentence Compliance and/or other Review hearings
4. Infraction hearings
5. Deferred Prosecution petitions

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Therefore, it is hereby ORDERED that this Order will take effect on November 12, 2024,
and will remain in effect until further order of this court.

DATED November 12, 2024.



Hon. Jeff M. Gregory
Presiding Judge
Mercer Island Municipal Court