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TIMOTHY W. FITZGERALD
SPOKANE COUNTY CLERK



**SUPERIOR COURT OF WASHINGTON
FOR SPOKANE COUNTY**

IN THE MATTER OF THE RESPONSE BY
SPOKANE COUNTY SUPERIOR COURT TO THE
PUBLIC HEALTH EMERGENCY IN WASHINGTON
STATE

No. 94-2-06940-8
EMERGENCY ORDER #5

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 Commissioners of Spokane County, the Mayor of the City of Spokane and the Spokane Regional Health District have also declared a state of emergency in Spokane County due to the same public health concerns; and

WHEREAS, the Washington State Supreme Court has adopted Order No. 25700-B-602 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

1
2 WHEREAS, on March 18, 2020 the Washington State Supreme Court adopted
3 Order No. 25700-B-606 suspending all civil jury trials and all civil matters until after
4 April 24, 2020, among other orders; and

5
6 WHEREAS, on March 23, 2020, the Governor of the State of Washington has
7 added additional restrictions on the citizens of the State of Washington due to the
8 declared a state of emergency concerning the Coronavirus Disease 2019 (COVID-19)
9 with his Proclamation 20-25, Stay Home – Stay Healthy; and

10
11 WHEREAS, this Court issued its Emergency Order #1 through #4 to respond to
12 the state of emergency and mitigate the effect of COVID-19; and

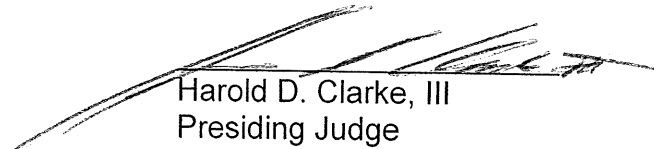
13 NOW, THEREFORE, IT IS HEREBY ORDERED, EFFECTIVE IMMEDIATELY:

14
15 LSPR 98.24 shall be suspended on an emergency basis until further order of the Court

- 16 1. Guardianship ex parte docket is cancelled. Any motion/order that does not need
17 an EMERGENCY hearing should be submitted via the Clerk's office policy. The
18 \$30 ex parte fee has been waived. Please see the Clerk's office Policy for
19 additional information.
- 20 2. Guardianship dockets will be held for EMERGENCY ISSUES ONLY. The Court
21 will determine which matters will be decided on the pleadings, set for hearing, or
22 stricken and re-noted per GMP scheduling policies.
- 23 3. If you believe you have an emergency guardianship issue, you may email copies
24 of your documents to GMPEROrders@SpokaneCounty.org. The Court will
25 decide if the matter is emergent. A Judicial Officer will review this email box daily.
26 Subject line should read ER Guardianship Petition/Order Case Name & Number.
- 27 4. If a Judicial Officer determines it is not an emergency, sanctions may be
28 assessed.

5. If your hearing is an emergency issue, the matter will be set and the parties shall appear telephonically. Bench copies and proposed orders may be emailed to GMP Staff. Signed orders will be emailed to the parties. The parties are responsible for having their own pleadings filed. The Judges and Court Commissioners cannot file your pleadings electronically or otherwise.
6. Annual accounting audits are on hold until after April 27th. Any accountings that have been submitted or will be submitted between now and April 27th will receive a one page order extending Letters of Guardianship to May 15th. GMP Staff will send copies to the parties by EMAIL ONLY.
7. Final accounting audits are on hold and hearings should be rescheduled after April 27th. Current hearings will be stricken, parties to re-note after April 27th.
8. Complaints will continue to be monitored via mail and letters sent.
9. The In-Person Monthly Family Guardian Training is cancelled. Family guardians will be required to take the Video Family Guardian Training and Test in order to receive a training certificate. You will be notified of when that video is operational. Until then, parties should present a Petition and Order Extending the Training or add similar language into the Order Appointing Guardian.

Dated: March 26th, 2020.



Harold D. Clarke, III
Presiding Judge