

THE SUPREME COURT OF WASHINGTON

IN THE MATTER OF STATEWIDE RESPONSE)
BY WASHINGTON STATE COURTS TO THE)
COURT SYSTEM NETWORK OUTAGE)
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ORDER
No. 25700-B-720

WHEREAS, an emergency order is necessary due to Washington's Administrative Office of the Courts identifying unauthorized activity on the state courts network. The Administrative Office of the Courts took immediate action to secure critical systems and is working to safely restore service. As a result, the state's Judicial Information Systems, Washington Courts website and affiliate websites, networks, and databases are currently unavailable.

WHEREAS, this Court's consultation with trial court judges confirms the need for further direction from this Court; and

WHEREAS, the presiding judges across Washington need direction and authority to effectively administer their courts in response to this emergency, including authority to adopt, modify, and suspend court rules and orders as warranted to address the emergency conditions.

NOW, THEREFORE, pursuant to the Court's authority to administer justice,

IT IS HEREBY ORDERED:

1. The portions of the Superior Court and Courts of Limited Jurisdiction Civil rules regarding time for trial, filing deadlines, and decision deadlines may be extended or expanded by local court order if the unavailability of the State Courts Network and Databases hinders the local court's ability to meet said deadlines or process filings submitted by litigants.
2. The portions of Superior Court and Courts of Limited Jurisdiction Criminal rules regarding time for case filing, speedy trial, and sentencing may be extended or expanded by local court order, if the unavailability of the State Courts Network and Databases hinders the local court's ability to meet said deadlines or process filings submitted by litigants.
3. If the unavailability of the State Courts Network and Databases hinders the local court's ability to meet said deadlines for processing arraignment on **out of custody** cases or the first appearance in court, good cause exists under CrR 4.1 and CrRLJ 4.1 and JuCR 7.6 to extend the arraignment dates. The new arraignment date shall be considered the "initial commencement date" for purposes of establishing the time for trial under CrR 3.3(c)(1), CrRLJ 3.3(c)(1) and JuCR 7.8(c)(1).
4. The portions of the Courts of Limited Jurisdiction Infraction rules regarding time for case filing, speedy hearing, and disposition may be extended or expanded by local court order, if the unavailability of the State Courts Network and Databases hinders the local court's ability to meet said deadlines or process filings submitted by litigants.

5. Certain statutes and court rules require the review of the judicial information system, networks, and/or databases, hosted by the Administrative Office of the Courts, prior to or during court proceedings. To the extent those networks and databases are not available, courts should seek other sources for the information required. Where no other source of such information is available, the requirement may be suspended by order of the local court.
6. This order will expire automatically two days after the judicial information system, networks, and/or databases, hosted by the Administrative Office of the Courts are restored and operational as announced by the Administrative Office of the Courts unless extended by further order of the Supreme Court. This order and other applicable emergency orders may be deemed part of the record in affected cases for purposes of appeal without the need to file the orders in each case.

DATED at Olympia, Washington this 8th day of November, 2024.

For the Court


CHIEF JUSTICE