

# SPOKANE TRIBAL COURT

6209 Agency Square Rd.  
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## SPOKANE TRIBAL COURT EMERGENCY STANDING ORDER

**2020-001**

**HEALTH EMERGENCY** – Recognizing the state of emergency that exists due to the COVID-19 virus, this emergency standing order shall be in effect for the Spokane Tribal Court immediately, and shall remain in effect until rescinded by the Spokane Tribal Court Chief Judge. This order shall apply to all persons who are transacting business with Spokane Tribal Court and shall include but is not limited to attorneys, parties, witnesses, and jurors.

1. **Courthouse Access:** The Courthouse is closed to the Public through April 24, 2020. Courthouse staff will be in the office on Tuesdays and Thursdays to process emergency filings, but the office will still be closed. The Court has provided the forms for the petitions for emergency protection orders and emergency custody by the door or you may contact us during business hours and we can send you the forms by e-mail or by mail. If you need to file paperwork outside these hours you can place the paperwork in the box outside or file per the instructions contained in this order in Paragraph #4. Forms will also be on the Spokane Tribe's website for your download and use.
2. **Civil Matters:** All civil matters currently scheduled for court hearings shall be continued by the Court for a minimum time period of thirty (30) days. The court will be providing notices of new court dates to parties in these matters.
3. **Criminal Matters:** The Court hereby finds good cause to continue all criminal matters, including all jury trials from March 23, 2020 through April 30, 2020. This period of time shall be considered to be an excluded time period for purposes of speedy trial. All jury trials for March and April are hereby stricken and shall be rescheduled to a later date. No criminal in-custody defendants shall be transported during this time. In addition, any essential criminal in-custody hearings, including first appearances on mandatory arrest charges shall be conducted telephonically.

4. Filings: The Court shall accept all court filings either via e-mail or mail at the following e-mail addresses – [Kerbi.wallette@spokanetribe.com](mailto:Kerbi.wallette@spokanetribe.com), [Tristan.seyler@spokanetribe.com](mailto:Tristan.seyler@spokanetribe.com), [Alleana.daily@spokanetribe.com](mailto:Alleana.daily@spokanetribe.com) or at PO Box 225, Wellpinit, WA 99040 or you may drop off the filings at the Court as stated in Paragraph #1.
5. UA Tests: UA tests are suspended until further notice.
6. Domestic Violence Protection Orders and No-Contact Orders: The Court will continue to accept and process Petitions for Domestic Violence Protection Orders and Petitions for Anti-Harassment/No-Contact Orders as outlined in this order. New petitions for emergency Domestic Violence Protective Orders or No-Contact Orders may be filed with the court via e-mail or US mail as described above. The Court shall continue to review emergency protective order/no-contact order petitions and issue temporary emergency protective orders if appropriate under the facts of the case and hearing dates for final orders shall be set out a minimum of thirty (30) days.
7. Questions: If you have any questions or concerns feel free to call the court at 509.258.7717 on Tuesdays or Thursdays. In addition, the Spokane Tribal Court has a Facebook page that you can post your question on and we will respond to these questions as soon as we can. Please be patient as service is sometimes limited in some areas, but we will respond as quickly as we can.

Above all the Court staff wish you all good health.

Dated this 16<sup>th</sup> Day of March, 2020.



Chief Judge, Theresa Thin Elk