



IN THE TRIBAL COURT OF THE
NOOKSACK INDIAN TRIBE
DEMING, WASHINGTON

IN THE MATTER OF RESPONSE TO
PUBLIC HEALTH RISK

Case No.: 2020-AO-001

ADMINISTRATIVE ORDER
RE: COVID-19

WHEREAS, the state and county are experiencing a rapid increase in the numbers of people showing symptoms of and being diagnosed with the current strain of coronavirus known as COVID-19; and

WHEREAS, COVID-19 is known to be highly contagious and easily transmitted in enclosed spaces like the Nooksack Tribal Courthouse; and

WHEREAS, the Governor of the State of Washington has declared a State of Emergency due to the COVID-19 outbreak; and the Whatcom County Executive has declared a Public Health Emergency due to the COVID-19 outbreak; and

WHEREAS, the Nooksack Indian Tribe is currently responding to the outbreak of this respiratory disease that was first detected in China and has become a global pandemic. The Nooksack Tribe has been preparing for this response and has developed a Nooksack Pandemic Response Team to keep abreast of the current COVID-19 pandemic and its impacts on the Nooksack Indian Tribal Community; and

WHEREAS, on March 7, 2020 the Nooksack Tribal Council passed Resolution #20-30: Declaring a Public Health Emergency for COVID-19. In an effort to follow social distancing guidelines and still continue to provide services Nooksack to the community, the Nooksack Tribe's General Manager initiated an Essential Personnel Workforce Plan for the week of March 16 thru March 20, 2020; and

WHEREAS, effective March 23, 2020 all Nooksack Tribal Offices were locked and closed with the exception of the Nooksack Tribal Health Clinic, Tribal Law Enforcement, and Tribal Gaming Agency; and

WHEREAS, Nooksack Tribal Court Hearings were ordered to be rescheduled and that any emergency court matters would be addressed by the Tribal Chief Judge and the Tribal Legal Counsel; and

WHEREAS, it has now been announced that the Nooksack Tribe will remain closed until it is determined safe to return to regular operations.

Administrative Order Re: COVID-19 PAGE 1	Nooksack Tribal Court P.O. Box 157 Deming, WA 98244 (360) 306-5125
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NOW, THEREFORE, IT IS HEREBY ORDERED:

1. All civil matters scheduled for the month of April are hereby continued and will be rescheduled by the Court Clerk once normal court functions have been restored.
2. All criminal matters scheduled for the month of April are hereby continued tentatively to the normal criminal docket set for May 14, 2020 at 9:30 a.m. and for good cause, all speedy trial timeframes are extended until further order of the Court.
3. All emergency matters, including warrants, in-custody hearings and emergency child custody matters will be handled telephonically. Please contact the Nooksack Tribal Police Department or the Office of Tribal Attorney to facilitate Court involvement in such matters.

SO ORDERED this 2nd day of April, 2020.

NOOKSACK TRIBAL COURT



Raymond G. Dodge
Chief Judge