

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF THE STATE OF OREGON  
FOR THE COUNTY OF CLACKAMAS

In the Matter of: )  
 )  
**Updated Restrictions on** ) **PRESIDING JUDGE ORDER**  
**Court Operations** ) **2021-07**  
\_\_\_\_\_ )

On November 17, 2020, Governor Brown issued Executive Order 20-65, ordering a statewide “two-week freeze.” In response, Chief Justice Martha Walters issued CJO 20-047 on November 18, 2020, imposing in-person restrictions on court operations during the statewide “freeze.” Subsequently, the Court issued PJO 2020-33, pausing noncustodial jury trials for the duration of the freeze.

On December 2, 2020, Governor Brown signed Executive Order 20-66, which introduced a new “Risk and Safety Framework” for reopening counties statewide which designated counties as Extreme, High, Moderate, and Lower Risk. In response, the Court issued PJO 2020-34, continuing the pause of noncustodial jury trials.

On February 17, 2021, Chief Justice Walters issued Amended CJO 20-047, ordering that a Presiding Judge may authorize jury trials other than those allowed to continue under the “freeze,” provided that, as of the date of the scheduled trial, the Governor has approved one or more counties in the judicial district to move to a category other than “Extreme Risk.” On February 9, 2021, Governor Brown announced that Clackamas County moved from “Extreme Risk” to “High Risk.”

On March 11, 2021, Chief Justice Walters issued CJO 21-009 which supersedes the above orders and presents a new or amended framework for proceeding with court operations while still meeting social distancing, CDC, and state requirements under the pandemic.

I HEREBY ORDER, pursuant to the authority granted by CJO 21-009 and ORS 1.002:

1. The following proceedings will be scheduled to be conducted in person as adequate facilities are available, social distancing requirements can be met and staffing levels permit:
  - a. Ex parte appearances,
  - b. Stalking appearances and contested hearings,
  - c. Contested protective hearings (Respondents only),
  - d. Noncustodial criminal arraignments,
  - e. Criminal case CMA, plea, appearance reset and probation violation hearings, and
  - f. Jury trials.

2. Any party may request the above appearances be held by remote means, but said request must be made or filed by 11:00 AM the proceeding Court day to the Court.
3. The Court prefers the above appearances be held by remote means when possible but recognizes that statutory requirements or practical considerations prohibit the presumption that said appearances be held by remote means.
4. All other court proceedings are presumed to be by remote means as required or allowed by prior and existing orders of the Court and the Chief Justice.
5. This Order takes effect immediately.

DATED this 24 day of March 2021.



Kathie F. Steele  
Clackamas County Circuit Court  
Presiding Judge