

IN THE DISTRICT COURT OF THE STATE OF WASHINGTON
IN AND FOR WHATCOM COUNTY

IN THE MATTER OF THE ADOPTION OF LOCAL COURT
RULES:

Administrative Order
No. 2020 - 16

Amending the Local Rules of the Court to Adopt
Certain New Procedural and Appearance Rules for
Certain Criminal and Infraction Proceedings.

WHEREAS, Washington Supreme Court rules CrRLJ 1.7 and IRLJ 1.3 permit district courts across the state to adopt ongoing local court rules and amend the same from time to time pursuant to GR 7, and

WHEREAS, CrRLJ 3.4 and IRLJ 3.5 authorize district courts to adopt local rules to utilize certain video and other remote hearing processes;

NOW, THEREFORE, pursuant to GR 7, CrRLJ 1.7 and IRLJ 1.3 the Whatcom County District Court Local Rules are hereby amended, effective this date, as follows:


1. New local criminal rule WDCrRLJ 6 adopting procedures authorized by CrRLJ 3.4(d) and (e) is added as set forth in Exhibit A hereto (new rule in underline).
2. New local infraction rule WDIRLJ 3.5(b) adopting procedures authorized by IRLJ 3.5(b) is added as set forth in Exhibit A hereto (new rule in underline).
3. Existing local infraction rule WDIRLJ 3.5 is amended as indicated in Exhibit A hereto (deletions per strikeout; amendments per underline).

The Court's previously existing local rules unaffected by this order remain in full force and effect as previously adopted.

DATED this 28th day of August, 2020.



Matthew S. Elich, Judge



David M. Grant, Judge

“EXHIBIT A” TO ADMINISTRATIVE ORDER 16 – AMENDING LOCAL COURT RULES

WDCrRLJ 6. VIDEO CONFERENCE PROCEEDINGS

Whatcom County District Court authorizes the use of video conference proceedings pursuant to CrRLJ 3.4(d) and (e) as currently adopted or hereafter amended. The party seeking the video appearance must contact the Clerk of the Court at least three business days before the hearing to make necessary conferencing arrangements, including providing the court with a working email address to facilitate the conference and coordinate appropriate arrangements for such appearance. The three-day notification period can be waived by the Court or the presiding judicial officer for good cause.

WDIRLJ 2.6. ~~ADOPTION AND CITATION~~ SCHEDULING OF HEARINGS

The procedure authorized in IRLJ 2.6(c) is adopted by this court.

WDIRLJ 3.5(A). DECISIONS ON WRITTEN STATEMENTS

Decisions on written and/or e-mail statements are authorized as permitted by IRLJ3.5(a).

WDIRLJ3.5(B). TELEPHONIC OR VIDEO CONFERENCE MITIGATION HEARINGS

Whatcom County District Court authorizes the use of telephonic or video conference hearings pursuant to IRLJ 3.5(b) as currently adopted or hereafter amended. The party seeking the video or telephonic appearance must contact the Clerk of the Court at least three business days before the hearing to make necessary conferencing arrangements, including providing the court with a working telephone number and/or email address as required to facilitate the conference and coordinate appropriate arrangements for such appearance. The three-day notification period can be waived by the Court or the presiding judicial officer for good cause.