

MAR 2 0 2020

## IN THE JUSTICE COURT OF LAKE TOWN SHIPPREN R. STEPHENS COUNTY OF PERSHING, STATE OF NEVADA Court Clerk

IN THE MATTER OF

COURT'S RESPONSE TO

THE LAKE TOWNSHIP JUSTICE

CORONAVIRUS DISEASE (COVID-19)

SECOND AMENDED ADMINISTRATIVE ORDER

The Justice of the Peace of the Lake Township Justice Court has various responsibilities, such as supervising the administrative business of the justice court, ensuring the quality and continuity of court services, supervising the court calendar, reassigning cases as convenience or necessity requires, assuring the court's duties are timely and orderly performed, and otherwise facilitating the business of the justice court.

On March 12, 2020, Governor Steve Sisolak declared a state of emergency in Nevada in response to the recent outbreak of the Coronavirus Disease (COVID-19). Given the severity of the risk posed to the public by COVID-19, and after consultation with the Nevada Supreme Court Chief Justice Kristina Pickering, Justice of the Peace Karen Stephens has determined that alterations to court procedure are necessary for the protection of the community.

Effective March 16, 2020, for a period of not less than 30 days (March 16 – April 17, 2020) all currently scheduled non-essential Court hearings are ordered to be conducted by telephonic means; decided on the papers; or rescheduled unless otherwise

directed by the Justice of the Peace. During this time, the Justice Court will continue to accept filings and continue managing cases within the parameters set forth in this order:

- All out-of-custody preliminary hearings shall be continued for a period of 30 days.
- 2. All arraignments (traffic and criminal) will be continued for a period of 45 days.
- 3. All pre-trial matters (traffic and criminal) will be continued for a period of 45 days.
- 4. Defendants arrested on traffic offenses and/or warrants who are subject to release on their own recognizance will be given a return date of 45 days.
- Out-of-custody trials (traffic and criminal) will be continued for a period of 45 days; and
- 6. Small Claims/Civil trials will be continued for a period of 45 days.

At this time, essential case types and hearings will continue to be heard through in-person appearances, although appearance by alternative means under Nevada Supreme Court Rule Part IX is encouraged when possible. Essential case types and hearings include the following:

- 1. In-custody proceedings for criminal matters;
- 2. Civil temporary or extended protection orders;

Effective March 17, 2020, the Lake Township Justice Court will suspend issuing

Defaults in all civil actions. Applications for Default Judgments in cases where a Default has already been issued will still be processed.

Effective March 17, 2020, all deadline and default provisions contained in NRS Chapter 40 concerning eviction and unlawful detainer proceedings are suspended and stayed.

Effective March 17, 2020 the Lake Township Justice Court will suspend the issuance of all Writs of Execution. Additionally, all currently issued Writs of Execution are hereby stayed until April 20, 2020. Any property garnished or attached after March 17, 2020, must be released back to the Judgment Debtor. The Pershing County Sheriff's Office should follow the guidance of NRS 21.112 with respect to any property garnished or attached prior to March 17, 2020.

All jury trials, scheduled in Lake Township Justice Court in the next thirty (30) days will be rescheduled as the court calendar allows. No summonsed prospective jurors are to appear.

This Order shall operate to stay Trial in Civil cases for purposes of NRCP 41(e). The time period of any continuance entered as a result of this Order shall be excluded for the purposes of calculating speedy trial under NRS 178.556(1) and NRS 174.511 and a preliminary hearing within fifteen days as the Court finds that the ends of justice served by taking that action outweigh the interests of the parties and the public in a speedy trial. If the Defendant is released from custody the preliminary hearing will be continued beyond the fifteen days.

Additionally, the Centers of Disease Control has advised people to take precautions and that the best way to prevent illness is to avoid exposure. As a result, District Court Administration was ordered to post a notice at the entrance of all district court facilities advising the following people that they may not enter the court facility:

- Persons who in the last 14 days have traveled to a country designated as a Level 3 travel health notice according to the Centers of Disease Control and Prevention.
   Currently those countries include: China, Iran, South Korea, Austria, Belgium,
   Czech Republic, Denmark, Estonia, Finland, France, Germany, Greece, Hungary,
   Iceland, Italy, Latvia, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malta, Netherlands,
   Norway, Poland, Portugal, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland,
   Monaco, San Marino, Vatican City, United Kingdom and Ireland. The list is subject to change by the CDC.
- 2. Persons who reside or have close contact with someone who has travelled to any foreign country within the last 14 days;
- 3. Persons who have been asked to self-quarantine by any doctor, hospital, or health agency;
- 4. Persons who have been diagnosed with coronavirus or who has had contact in the past 14 days with anyone who has been diagnosed with COVID-19; or
- 5. Persons with unexplained fever, cough or shortness of breath.

If a person is unable to appear in court because of the restrictions above, the person may call the Lake Township Justice Court at 775-273-2753 for assistance in

rescheduling their court appearance, arranging for appearance by alternative means or provide other information based on the circumstances of the appearance.

This order shall be reviewed no later than every 30 days and shall continue until modified or rescinded by a subsequent order.

This Second Amended Administrative Order supersedes the Amended Administrative Order, and Amended Administrative Order is immediately rescinded.

DATED this 20<sup>th</sup> day of March 2020.

KAREN R. STEPHENS

Justice of the Peace

Lake Township Justice Court