

FILED

MAR 17 2020

KAREN R. STEPHENS
Justice of the Peace

TMLA, Court Clerk

IN THE JUSTICE COURT OF LAKE TOWNSHIP
COUNTY OF PERSHING, STATE OF NEVADA

IN THE MATTER OF
THE LAKE TOWNSHIP JUSTICE
COURT'S RESPONSE TO
CORONAVIRUS DISEASE (COVID-19)

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

1 directed by the Justice of the Peace. During this time, the Justice Court will continue to
2 accept filings and continue managing cases within the parameters set forth in this order:
3

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

14
15
16 At this time, essential case types and hearings will continue to be heard through
17 in-person appearances, although appearance by alternative means under Nevada Supreme
18 Court Rule Part IX is encouraged when possible. Essential case types and hearings
19 include the following:

- 20 1. In-custody proceedings for criminal matters;
 - 21 2. Civil temporary or extended protection orders;
 - 22 3. Eviction proceedings.
- 23
24
25
26

1 Effective March 17, 2020, the Lake Township Justice Court will suspend issuing
2 Defaults in all civil actions. Applications for Default Judgments in cases where a Default
3 has already been issued will still be processed.
4

5 All jury trials, scheduled in Lake Township Justice Court in the next thirty (30)
6 days will be rescheduled as the court calendar allows. No summonsed prospective jurors
7 are to appear.
8

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


- 13 1. Persons who in the last 14 days have traveled to a country designated as a Level 3
14 travel health notice according to the Centers of Disease Control and Prevention.
15 Currently those countries include: China, Iran, South Korea, Austria, Belgium,
16 Czech Republic, Denmark, Estonia, Finland, France, Germany, Greece, Hungary,
17 Iceland, Italy, Latvia, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malta, Netherlands,
18 Norway, Poland, Portugal, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland,
19 Monaco, San Marino, Vatican City, United Kingdom and Ireland. The list is
20 subject to change by the CDC.
21
- 22 2. Persons who reside or have close contact with someone who has travelled to any
23 foreign country within the last 14 days;
24
25
26

- 1
2
3
4
5
6
7
8
9
10
11
12
13
14
15
16
17
18
19
20
21
22
23
24
25
26
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.

DATED this 17th day of March 2020.


KAREN R. STEPHENS
Justice of the Peace
Lake Township Justice Court