

**IN THE MURRAY JUSTICE COURT
SALT LAKE COUNTY, STATE OF UTAH**

IN THE MURRAY CITY JUSTICE COURT	TEMPORARY ORDER: REQUESTS TO RESCHEDULE COURT DATES, LIMITING COURT ACCESS AND ADDRESSING FINANCIAL ISSUES Judge W. Paul Thompson
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In order to promote the fair and efficient administration of justice and in response to concerns related to the transmission of communicable diseases, the court makes the following administrative order. This order supersedes any prior Temporary Order covering the following topics:

1. Rescheduling Cases – General Orders

- a. ~~Court staff are authorized to reschedule cases.~~
- b. Jury trials are ~~to be rescheduled no earlier than June 1, 2020.~~ **suspended pending further administrative orders from the Supreme Court.**
- c. Absent exigent circumstances, all hearings shall be conducted on the pleadings and papers, or through remote transmission, such as video conferencing.
- d. If an in-person hearing is necessary due to exigent circumstances, the Court shall conduct the hearing consistent with all applicable government and public health Orders and the Court’s Pandemic Response Plan.
- e. ~~A person who appears at the courthouse in response to a summons or pursuant to a promise to appear shall be given a new date to appear in court after June 1, 2020 and the court or clerk may address summary matters.~~ [Deleted]
- f. ~~Traffic cases not involving Driving Under the Influence (DUI) or Reckless Driving charges shall be rescheduled no earlier than October 1, 2020.~~ [Deleted]

- g. Court may conduct any proceedings by video, including bench trials if all parties consent. To request a video hearing please email your request at murraycourt@murray.utah.gov or by phone at (801) 284-4280.
 - h. **Individuals who show symptoms of COVID-19 or who have been exposed to someone with the symptoms of COVID-19 may NOT enter the courthouse.**
 - i. **All persons entering the courthouse MUST wear a face mask over their mouth and nose in accordance with the CDC guidelines or they will not be allowed into the building.**
- 2. **Rescheduling Cases – DUI & Reckless Driving Cases**

These hearings ~~shall be scheduled no earlier than June 1, 2020~~ will be suspended pending administrative orders from the Supreme Court.
- 3. **Rescheduling Cases – Domestic Violence Cases**
 - a. Individuals arrested for Domestic Violence offenses shall be seen by video on the next available calendar.
 - b. To request a video hearing, please email the court at murray@murray.utah.gov or request by phone 801-284-4280
 - c. Domestic Violence cases in which the prosecution is seeking pre-trial protective orders or other conditions of release are considered exigent and should be scheduled on the next available opportunity to be heard by Video conference.
- 4. **All Small Claims hearings** shall be ~~rescheduled to no earlier than June 1, 2020~~ suspended pending administrative orders from the Supreme Court.
- 5. **All other requests** are governed by other standing orders or may be referred to the Judge for consideration.
- 6. **Stipulations**
 - a. Attorneys are encouraged to stipulate to continuances.
 - b. Attorneys are encouraged to stipulate to extensions of time.
 - c. Attorneys are encouraged to stipulate to the admission of documentary evidence consistent with their responsibilities under the Rules of Professional Conduct.

- d. Individuals without representation can request a video hearing, please email the court at murray@murray.utah.gov or by phone 801-284-4280 to schedule a video hearing.

7. Persons in custody

- a. The Court staff shall schedule any individuals in custody at the times given to the court by the Jail (ADC).
- b. Individuals being held on warrants shall have custody reconsidered.
- c. Individuals being held on warrants for failure to appear at post-judgement hearings may be released upon the filing of a promise to appear.
- d. Individuals being held on traffic offenses other than DUI or Reckless Driving shall have the warrants recalled, be provided with a court date consistent with the order and released.
- e. Except for DV cases, individuals not otherwise released may post bail to be released.
- f. Unless otherwise ordered, an individual charged with any domestic violence related offense may be released without bail if under the supervision of a pretrial services agency and subject to Jail Release Agreement. Individuals released under this provision shall contact the Court within five (5) business days from release.
- g. The purpose of this section is to minimize the number of persons held in custody to reduce the risk of infection balanced with ensuring public safety.

8. Courtroom Access

- a. The Court shall continue to accept filings and shall be available to answer phone calls, emails and other communications.
- b. Individuals who do not have access to e-filing may file pleadings by email in any pending case.
- c. If any individual wishes to file a pleading to initiate a case or file a notice of appeal, the individual may file pleadings at the Court, 688 E Vine St.

- d. Court staff are encouraged to be diligent in observing individuals who exhibit physical symptoms of illness and shall require rescheduling of the individual's hearing in order to protect the public health and safety.
- e. Individuals who exhibit physical symptoms of illness may not enter the courthouse.
- f. Public access to the courtroom is restricted.
- g. No more than five (5) people may be in the courtroom at a time, priority will be given to litigants, their attorneys and witnesses.

9. Payment Information

- a. Payment of fines and fees is of secondary importance to preventing the spread of COVID-19 (CORONAVIRUS)
- b. Extensions of payment due dates shall be offered to anyone having symptoms of COVID-19 or who has had any contact with a person with COVID-19 who cannot make an online payment.
- c. Payments of fines and fees can be made online using:
 - i. Visa, Mastercard, Discover Card and American Express at <https://pubapps.utcourts.gov/ePayments/EPayment.jsp>
 - ii. By mailing a check to the court Murray Justice Court, 688 E Vine St #13 Murray, Utah 84107.
 - iii. In-person cash, Credit Card & Check payments can be made only if the individual does not demonstrate symptoms of COVID-19 and has not had any contact with any person who has COVID-19.

10. Financial Hardship

- a. Individuals under financial hardship that is directly related to loss of employment, wages or increased expenses related to COVID-19 isolation or natural disaster may ask the court for relief.
- b. Relief may include:
 - i. Reduction in fine & fee payment amounts;
 - ii. Reduction in fine or fee balance;
 - iii. Extensions for deadlines for probation and plea in abeyance terms.

- c. Requests for relief must be made in writing, by email murraycourt@murray.utah.gov or fax (801) 284-4285 and must include the basis for request.
- d. Clerks may suspend payments for up to ninety (90) days.
- e. If your case is non-mandatory and does not require a court date, and you need a payment plan, clerks may provide a payment plan for up to 6 months. To request a payment plan, you may email the court at murraycourt@murray.utah.gov, by phone (801) 284-4280, or in person at 688 East Vine Street, Murray 84107

The court recognizes that individuals appearing before the Court have multiple stressors imposed upon them and current circumstances have only added to that stress. It is the hope of this Court that this order eases a portion of your stress. We all must work together as cooperatively as possible in an adverse proceeding in order to ensure that the administration of justice persists in these trying times.

ORDERED THIS 6th day of July 2020.


Honorable W. Paul Thompson

