

HIGHLAND JUSTICE COURT  
MARICOPA COUNTY, STATE OF ARIZONA

IN THE MATTER OF:

LIMITATION OF JUSTICE COURT            )  
OPERATIONS DURING A PUBLIC            )  
HEALTH EMERGENCY                        )

ORDER 2020-01

As a result of the COVID-19 spread in the general population, the Governor of the State of Arizona has declared a statewide emergency. The Arizona Supreme Court has also issued Administrative Order No. 2020-48 addressing measures to be taken by the Judicial Branch to reduce the risk associated the public health emergency. In accordance with the Administrative Order No. 2020-48 and at the direction of the Presiding Judge of the Superior Court in Maricopa County, the Honorable Joseph C Welty, has issued Administrative Order No. 2020-38 to protect the health and safety of the public.

Therefore, in its efforts to minimize the number of in-person proceedings in the Highland Justice Court to the greatest extent possible while maintaining core constitutional rights:

IT IS ORDERED AS FOLLOWS:

1. Beginning March 23, 2020, any case continued from arraignment will not be scheduled before April 20, 2020.
2. All post arraignment non-trial settings for out of custody defendants currently scheduled for March 23, 2020 through April 17 will be continued to a date certain after April 20, 2020.
3. All non-jury trials for out of custody defendants currently scheduled between March 23, 2020 through April 17, 2020, have been vacated and will be rescheduled after April 20, 2020.
4. All civil hearings currently scheduled for March 23, 2020 through April 17, 2020 will be rescheduled after April 20, 2020 except eviction actions.
5. All eviction proceedings will be scheduled such that in-person courtroom contact is limited to 10 people in two (2) courtrooms during four (4) scheduled times during the week.
6. All Immediate evictions will be scheduled as per statute.
7. All criminal trials scheduled between March 23, 2020 through April 17, 2020 will be scheduled after April 20, 2020.
8. All Protective Order proceedings will continue with the direction that telephonic appearances are to be utilized where feasible until further notice.
9. All weddings are to be performed outside of the court facilities.
10. Limit all in-person courtroom contact by using available technologies, including alternative means of filing, teleconferencing, video conferencing and the use of email and fax.
11. This Administrative Order shall continue beyond April 17, 2020 if the Governor, Supreme Court Chief Justice and/or the Presiding Judge of the Superior Court of Maricopa extend the public health emergency.

Dated this 20th day of March 2020.

/s/ Steve Urie  
Hon. Steve Urie  
Justice of the Peace  
Highland Justice Court

Cc: Hon Keith Russell  
Hon. Joseph C Welty  
James Marrow  
Administrative office of the Court