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JUSTICE COURT, LAS VEGAS TOWNSHIP
CLARK COUNTY, NEVADA

ADKT 556

IN THE ADMINISTRATIVE MATTER REGARDING TEMPORARY PROCEDURES IN CRIMINAL, CIVIL, AND TRAFFIC[1] CASES	**SECOND AMENDED ADMINISTRATIVE ORDER #20-03 (revised on 9/17/20)**

FILED
SEP 17 2020
ELIZABETH A. BROWN
CLERK OF SUPREME COURT
BY
CHIEF DEPUTY CLERK

WHEREAS, Local Rules of Practice for the Justice Court of Las Vegas Township, Rule 6.5, charges the Chief Judge of the Las Vegas Justice Court with various responsibilities, such as supervising the administrative business of the Las Vegas 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 Las Vegas Justice Court as well making such orders as deemed advisable relating to local court rules and procedure; and

WHEREAS, 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 Nevada Supreme Court Chief Justice Kristina Pickering, the Chief Judge of the Las Vegas Justice Court has determined that alterations to court procedure are necessary for the protection of the community; and therefore,

IT IS HEREBY ORDERED that, effective March 17, 2020, the Las Vegas Justice Court will continue to accept filings and manage cases within the parameters set forth in this Order;

[1] As used in this Administrative Order, a "Traffic" offense is an offense that has a demerit point value of four (4) or less as determined by the Nevada Department of Motor Vehicles. Offenses with higher point values, such as DUI, are not considered Traffic Offenses under this Administrative Order.

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1. Beginning March 19, 2020, or as soon as possible thereafter, all criminal in-custody hearings, with the exception of in-custody preliminary hearings and in-custody trials, will be conducted via video conferencing in courtroom 6A;

2. All criminal out-of-custody hearings, with the exception of preliminary hearings, will be continued for a period of at least sixty (60) days. Out-of-custody preliminary hearings shall be continued for a period of at least sixty (60) days based upon the department's calendar. Individuals with attorneys for criminal cases are encouraged to contact their attorneys instead of coming to the Court to obtain the new court dates and/or provide their attorneys with proof of completion of any court-ordered requirements. Attorneys are encouraged to communicate with the Court via email (preferred) or phone to obtain new court dates for these matters. A listing of all emails and phone numbers will be listed on the Court's website page;

3. All traffic pre-trial matters shall be suspended for the next sixty (60) days;

4. Any person arrested on a criminal offense subject to an own-recognizance release under Las Vegas Justice Court Administrative Order 18-04, will be given a return court date in sixty (60) days;

5. Any person arrested on traffic offenses and/or warrants will be subject to release, and given a return court date no sooner than May 15, 2020;

6. [DELETED]

7. [DELETED]

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. All in-custody proceedings for criminal matters;
2. Bail motion hearings, motions to quash bench warrants, and motions for own recognizance walk-through on arrest warrants, until arrangements can be made to hear these matters by alternative means;
3. Civil temporary or extended protection orders;
4. Unlawful Towing cases;
5. Objections to Claims of Exemption.

All currently scheduled non-essential Las Vegas Justice Court hearings are ordered to be conducted by video or telephonic means; decided on the papers; or rescheduled unless otherwise directed by a Las Vegas Justice Court Judge.

Small Claims trials, Small Claims motion hearings, and Small Claims examinations of judgment debtor are deemed non-essential. All Small Claims trials, Small Claims motions, and Small Claims examinations currently set will be continued to a future date. Notifications to Small Claims litigants of the new date will be made via mail and/or email if an email address is available.

All jury trials, civil and criminal, scheduled in Las Vegas Justice Court for the next thirty (30) days will be rescheduled to a new date as the court calendar allows. No summonsed prospective jurors are to appear.

Effective March 17, 2020, the Las Vegas Justice Court will suspend issuing Defaults on 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 Las Vegas Justice Court will suspend issuing orders for the examination of a judgment debtor.

Effective March 17, 2020, the Las Vegas 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. Clark County Constables and Sheriff Civil Division should follow the guidance in NRS 21.112 with respect to any property garnished or attached prior to March 17, 2020.

In order to practice social distancing as recommended by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), Las Vegas Justice Court is encouraging the use of electronic communication for the resolution of cases, status checks, and/or negotiations. A list of emails for each department will be on the Las Vegas Justice Court's website at www.lasvegasjusticecourt.us.

Additionally, to assist all persons unable to enter the Regional Justice Center (i.e. the Courthouse) because of exposure or illness, the Court has established dedicated phone lines as follows: **Criminal Division at 702-671-3201, Civil Division at 702-671-3478, and Traffic Division at 702-671-3444** to speak to a customer-service representative for assistance in rescheduling their court appearance, arranging for appearance by alternative means, or providing other information based on the circumstances of the appearance.

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that this Administrative Order shall be reviewed no later than every 30 days and shall continue until modified or rescinded by a subsequent order.

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that this Administrative Order supersedes Administrative Order 20-02, and Administrative Order 20-02 is immediately rescinded.

Revised this 16th day of September, 2020.

Suzan Baucum

Suzan Baucum,
Chief Justice of the Peace
Las Vegas Justice Court