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TULALIP TRIBAL COURT

CLERK

**TULALIP TRIBAL COURT**
**IN AND FOR THE TULALIP INDIAN RESERVATION**
**TULALIP, WASHINGTON**

| IN RE: **Courthouse Facility Dog** | ADMINISTRATIVE ORDER 2026-04 |
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During the time that a specifically trained courthouse facility dog is available for use by the Tribes or Court, the dog may be utilized in judicial proceedings and therapeutic court programs to promote the fair and effective administration of justice. The courthouse facility dog is intended to assist individuals interacting with the court system, including participants in therapeutic court programs; for the comfort of vulnerable victims, witnesses, and other persons who may be testifying; and as the Court deems appropriate. The use of the courthouse facility dog shall be permitted in the Courtroom under the following terms and pursuant to such rulings the Court may hereafter make:

1. **Use In Courtroom Proceedings.**
Any party or attorney seeking to have the courthouse facility dog present during a trial, evidentiary hearing, or other contested courtroom proceeding shall, except on a showing of good cause, file a written Motion no less than 10 days prior to the scheduled hearing seeking the Court's permission to have the dog present in the Courtroom. After notice and opportunity for a hearing, the Court shall determine whether the dog and any accompanying handler is suitably qualified, whether the dog would be appropriate in this particular proceeding, and any other limitations appropriate to the use of the dog consistent with proper decorum, the orderly administration of justice, the rights of all parties and the laws of the Tribes.

2. **Use in Therapeutic Court Programs.**
The courthouse facility dog may be present and utilized during proceedings, staffing meetings, participant orientations, treatment-related activities, graduations, and other functions conducted as part of the Court's therapeutic court programs,


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including Wellness Court and Mental Health Alternative Program and any other therapeutic court established by this Court, without the necessity of a written Motion or separate Order in each case. This order authorizes the use of the courthouse facility dog's presence to further the objectives of the program, promote participant engagement, reduce stress or anxiety, encourage meaningful participation in the judicial process, and assist in the effective administration of the therapeutic court.

3. **Administrative Procedures.**
The agency or entity responsible for the courthouse facility dog may establish reasonable procedures governing the scheduling, handling, care, and use of the dog. To the extent such procedures do not interfere with the authority or discretion of the Court, this Court takes no position regarding those administrative requirements.

4. **Limitation.**
This Order authorizes only the use of the specifically trained courthouse facility dog described herein. Nothing in this Order shall be construed to authorize or create a right to the presence of any other comfort animal, emotional support animal, therapy animal, comfort person, device, or other thing in any judicial proceeding or court-sponsored program unless separately authorized by Order of the Court.

5. **Effective Date and Duration.**
This Order is adopted as a Standing Order of the Tulalip Tribal Court. It shall take effect immediately upon entry and shall remain in full force and effect unless and until specifically amended, superseded, or withdrawn by written Order of the Chief Judge or other lawful authority.

**SO ORDERED.**

DATED this 21st day of August 2026.

NK Anderson

Hon. Natasha K. Anderson
Chief Judge, TULALIP TRIBAL COURT



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