

2020-03-18-A

TRIBAL COURT LIMITED OPERATIONS PLAN AND ADMINISTRATIVE STANDING ORDER SUPPLEMENTAL ORDER RE: DV Protection orders, Elder and Vulnerable Adult Protection Orders, Family Law and Child Support Filings and Tulalip Office of Civil Legal Aid brief service during closure

MARCH 18, 2020

Pursuant to the Emergency Closure of the Tulalip Tribal Court, these procedures will govern the continued court review of Domestic Violence/Sexual Assault/Stalking Protection Order Petitions, Elder and Vulnerable Adult Protection Orders, Family Law and Child Support Filings and Tulalip Office of Civil Legal Aid (TOCLA) continued brief service legal advice.

Court operations are substantially curtailed to help keep the public and our employees safe during the COVID-19 pandemic. We have entered an unprecedented time and are working hard to understand how best to go forward with court with the growing outbreak of COVID-19 for the Tulalip Tribes and the Tribal Court. We are closely monitoring recommendations and practices from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention to protect the public's health. To minimize the health impacts of COVID-19 to our community, we are implementing a variety of emergency strategies to increase social distancing and slow the spread of this disease. We understand these actions will have a tremendous impact on all members of our community.

Therefore, the court hereby affirms and declares:

HEALTH EMERGENCY- Recognizing the state of emergency declared by the Tulalip Tribes due to the COVID-19 virus, this supplement to the emergency standing order shall be in effect for Tulalip Tribal Court immediately, and shall remain in effect until rescinded by the Tulalip Tribal Court Chief Judge or Deputy Chief Judge. This order shall apply to all persons who are transacting business with Tulalip Tribal Court and shall include but is not limited to attorneys, parties, witnesses, and the general public.

1. DOMESTIC VIOLENCE, SEXUAL ASSAULT AND STALKING PROTECTION ORDERS.

Legacy of Healing will be continuing to accept referrals for services to Petitioners for DV/SA/Stalking Protection Orders. Persons wishing to file for one of these orders should contact Legacy of Healing, or the DV Attorney at 918-269-5693. Legacy of Healing and the DV Attorney are able to assist with filling out Petitions and filing with the Court. The Tribal Court has created processes for signing electronically and filing remotely. Temporary Orders, under the TRIBAL COURT LIMITED OPERATIONS PLAN AND UPDATED ADMINISTRATIVE STANDING ORDER, will be extended past March 31, 2020 and may be continued further if the closure is extended by the Tulalip Board of Directors.

Persons wishing to file their own Petitions for these Orders may request a packet from the front security desk at the Tribal Court. This will require a requestor to wait until court staff can

provide the DV Protection Order Packet which may take some time. **POTENTIAL PETITIONERS ARE STRONGLY URGED TO WORK WITH LEGACY OF HEALING AND THE DV ATTORNEY** as this will result in receiving a temporary order of protection in the shortest amount of time possible.

2. ELDER AND VULNERABLE ADULT PROTECTION ORDERS

Tulalip Office of Civil Legal Aid will be available to assist with any Petitions for Elder or Vulnerable Adult Protection Orders during the closure. TOCLA will take referrals to assist with Petitions from persons concerned about someone who is vulnerable, from the Tulalip Elder Protection Program, or from Elders and Vulnerable Adults seeking assistance for themselves. To receive assistance from TOCLA, persons seeking to Petition for an Elder/Vulnerable Adult Protection Order should contact TOCLA by calling 360-716-4513, or 360-913-3433. Tulalip Elder Protection and Vulnerable Adult Program at 360-716-4689.

3. FAMILY LAW AND CHILD SUPPORT FILINGS

During the closure, the Tulalip Tribal Court will not be accepting civil filings that are non-emergency. If a person believes there is a concern about the health, safety and welfare of a minor child, they should contact the Region 3 Washington State Child Protection Services hotline at 1-866-829-2153. While the Tribal Court will not be accepting non-emergency filings during this closure period, persons may continue to seek service from TOCLA pursuant to Section 4 below. If a person believes that their filing is emergent, that will be referred to the Court Administrator and the Judges for a determination of whether the Court will accept the filing and hold a telephonic hearing.

4. TOCLA SERVICES DURING CLOSURE

Existing or potential clients should continue to call the TOCLA main number to request appointments for telephone consultation. Potential clients will be screened for eligibility and schedule a callback from the TOCLA attorney. If a call involves one of the other TOCLA attorneys, the call will be referred to that other attorney. The main TOCLA line is 360-716-4512.

So issued this 18th day of March, 2020.

Ron Whitener, Associate Judge
and
Leona Colegrove, Associate Judge

Michelle Demmert, Chief Judge
Remy Leonard, Associate Judge
Janine VanDusen, Associate Judge
Josh Heath, Associate Judge
Alicia Horne, Court Director