FILED
SUPREME COURT
STATE OF WASHINGTON
APRIL 2, 2020
BY SUSAN L. CARLSON
CLERK

THE SUPREME COURT OF WASHINGTON

IN THE MATTER OF TEMPORARILY SUSPENDING LOCAL AND STATE COURT RULES THAT REQUIRE IN-PERSON ADMINISTRATION OF OATHS OR AFFIRMATIONS	**O R D E R** NO. 25700-B-610

WHEREAS, this Court has issued a series of emergency administrative orders 25700-B-602, 25700-B-607, 25700-B-608, and 25700-B-609, encouraging social distancing and the suspension of certain court rules to address the emergency conditions in furtherance of the safety of court personnel, litigants, and the public, as a result of COVID-19; and

WHEREAS, the Washington Court Reporters Association, having recommended the adoption of the suggested amendment to CR 30—Deposition Upon Oral Examination, and the Washington State Bar Association urging expedited adoption in light of emergency conditions presented by COVID-19, and the Court having considered the proposed amendment, and having determined that temporarily suspending the rules that require in-person administration of oaths and affirmations will support the immediate goal of social distancing;

NOW, THEREFORE, pursuant to the Court's authority to administer justice and to ensure the safety of court personnel, litigants and the public, and the Court's authority to take emergency action with respect to rules pursuant to GR 9(j)(1),

IT IS HEREBY ORDERED:

(a) Effectively immediately and until otherwise ordered, the Court hereby suspends any local or state court rule that requires administering any oath or affirmation in-person where such oaths or affirmations can be administered remotely by available technologies, including videoconferencing or teleconferencing, and is not otherwise prohibited by any statutory or constitutional provision;

(b) This order does not affect the Court's continued review of proposed amendments to court rules, including CR 30, under the nonemergency provisions of GR 9;

(c) This order will be published on the Washington Courts website.

DATED at Olympia, Washington this 2nd day of April, 2020.

For the Court

Stegner, C. J.
CHIEF JUSTICE