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

THE SUPREME COURT OF WASHINGTON

IN THE MATTER OF THE SUSPENSION OF RAP 18.8(b) AND (c) IN RESPONSE BY WASHINGTON STATE APPELLATE COURTS TO THE COVID-19 PUBLIC HEALTH EMERGENCY	)))))))	ORDER No. 25700-B-611

WHEREAS, on February 29, 2020, Governor Inslee proclaimed a state of emergency due to the novel coronavirus disease (COVID-19) outbreak in Washington; and, on March 13, 2020, President Trump declared a national emergency due to the COVID-19 outbreak across the United States; and

WHEREAS, on March 24, 2020, Governor Inslee issued an emergency "Stay Home" order to combat the accelerating COVID-19 outbreak in Washington, requiring all residents of Washington to remain home unless certain exemptions applied, effective 5:30 p.m. on March 26, 2020; and

WHEREAS, the Supreme Court and the Court of Appeals are aware of the difficulties these emergency conditions pose for litigants making a good faith effort to timely seek appellate review in accordance with the Rules of Appellate Procedures (RAP); and

WHEREAS, this Court has issued a series of emergency administrative orders, Nos. 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.

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:

1. That RAP 18.8(b) is suspended as to all notices of appeal, notices for discretionary review, motions for discretionary review of decisions of the Court of Appeals, petitions for review, and motions for reconsideration due for filing on or after March 27, 2020.
2. That during the period of time RAP 18.8(b) is suspended, all motions for extension of time will be decided in accordance with the "ends of justice" standard set forth in RAP 18.8(a).
3. That RAP 18.8(c) is suspended effective March 27, 2020.
4. That the above-referenced rules will remain suspended until further order of this court.

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

For the Court

Stegner, C. J.
CHIEF JUSTICE