



Civil Department

1. All Civil Motions

- All court hearings will presumptively continue to be conducted by telephone, video, or other electronic means unless the judicial officer allows an in-person appearance for a specific hearing. With the court's approval, the parties may appear in-person and must comply with the Court's safety protocols.
- LCR 7 is modified and notice time is enlarged. The moving party shall serve and file all motion documents no later than **nine court days** before the date the party wishes the motion to be considered; opposing documents will be filed and served no later than 4:30p.m. **four court days** before the motion is to be considered; and any optional strict reply will be filed and served no later than 4:30 p.m. **two court days** before the hearing.
- Oral argument on motions for revisions shall be at the discretion of the judge.
- Oral argument is allowed for LCR 56 and LCR 12 motions.

2 Civil Bench Trials

- Since June 8, 2020, the court has successfully heard civil bench trials and dissolutions without children through videoconferencing.
- It is presumed that all civil bench trials shall occur via videoconferencing. With prior court approval, bench trials may occur in person, in which case all must comply with the Court's public health protocols.
- The assigned judge will hold pretrial conferences or otherwise engage in case management for each case to determine trial readiness and review protocols of how to conduct a trial by video in King County.
- **Protocols for conducting a trial by videoconferencing are on the Court's website**

3 Civil Jury Trials

- Due to space constraints¹ and abiding by public health protocols, civil jury trials presumptively will be held virtually. The parties, counsel, witnesses, and jurors will appear and participate entirely by Zoom including during deliberations. The assigned judge will be physically present in the courtroom and provide a means for public access to observe the proceedings. The assigned judge will hold a

¹ It takes two courtrooms to hold a single in-person jury trial because it remains unsafe to place 14-16 jurors into the jury rooms. Given the need to prioritize criminal trials, which are constitutionally required to be in-person, limited space remains to conduct civil, family law and dependency trials in addition to various calendar courts (family law motions, ex parte, arraignments etc.).

pretrial conference to discuss the procedures for the trial. **Protocols of how to conduct a jury trial by video are on the Court's website.**

4 Other Matters.

- Chief Civil Motions Calendar – Telephonic Hearings for Both Locations
 - Seattle – Thursdays at 1:30PM. See <https://www.kingcounty.gov/courts/superior-court/directory/judges/cahan.aspx> for instructions.
 - Kent – All Chief Civil Calendars are on Fridays
 - Supplemental Proceedings – Fridays at 9:15AM
 - Unassigned Case Dispositive Motions, Motions for Revision, Certificates of Rehabilitation – Fridays at 10:30AM
 - This is a rotating calendar in Kent. Call (206) 477-2600 for court assignment. The assigned court can be contacted for call-in phone number and associated pin.
- The Ex Parte Department is conducting hearings remotely by telephone and video. For more information about Ex Parte Department changes please visit <https://www.kingcounty.gov/courts/superior-court/ex-parte-probate.aspx>
- Supplemental Proceedings will be handled by telephone. See <https://www.kingcounty.gov/courts/superior-court/directory/judges/cahan.aspx> for instructions.
- Oath of Attorneys will be handled by telephone. See <https://www.kingcounty.gov/courts/superior-court/directory/judges/cahan.aspx> for instructions
- Antiharassment, Antistalking, Sexual Assault Protection Order, and Extreme Risk Protection Order matters will be handled by telephone. See antiharassment links for [Kent](#) and [Seattle](#) calendars for call-in instructions. For filing instructions click [Here](#)

Expectation for Civil Discovery.

- Within 90 days of filing of the complaint, the parties shall meet and confer to create a discovery plan, which shall be filed with the Court with a working copy emailed to the assigned judge.
- There is a presumption that depositions shall occur via remote means unless good cause is shown. Counsel may be present with their client if appropriate social distancing measures are taken.