

**KING COUNTY DISTRICT COURT
KING COUNTY, STATE OF WASHINGTON
OFFICE OF THE PRESIDING JUDGE**

) GENERAL ADMINISTRATIVE ORDER
) Clerk's Action Required
)

) **No. 02-77**
)

) **Procedures for District-wide Warrant Recall**
)
)

FINDINGS:

1. Citizens throughout the State have become increasingly concerned about the numbers and seriousness of outstanding misdemeanor arrest warrants presently on line, many of which originate in various Divisions of the King County District Court; and
2. Pursuant to SHB 2499 and RCW 3.66.060, as amended, authorize any judge of a court of limited jurisdiction to "take recognizance, approve bail, and arraign defendants held within its jurisdiction on warrants issued by other courts of limited jurisdiction when those courts are participating in the program established under section 1 of that act; and
3. It is the desire of the Judges of the various Divisions of the King County District Court to handle outstanding warrants currently on line in the various Divisions of this Court, both to assist in the development of a comprehensive Driving While Suspended Re-Licensing program, and to assist in the orderly administration of justice within the King County District Court.
4. Preparatory to the establishment of an Interlocal Agreement authorizing action between this Court and other Courts of Limited Jurisdiction, this General Administrative Order is intended to authorize Judges of any Division of the King County District Court to act to handle any outstanding warrant issued by any Division of this Court.

GENERAL ADMINISTRATIVE ORDER:

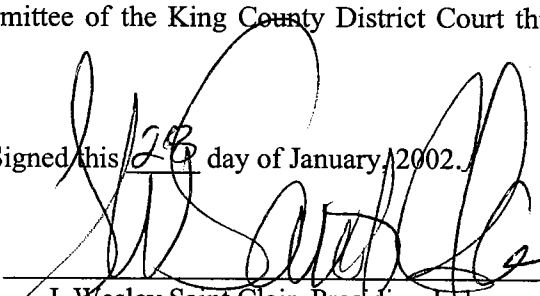
NOW, THEREFORE, IT IS HEREBY ORDERED, ADJUDGED AND DECREED as follows:

1. Any Judicial Officer acting on behalf of the King County District Court shall have the discretion to hear and take cognizance, approve bail, and arraign any defendant held within its jurisdiction on any warrant issued by any Division of the King County District Court in accordance with the rules and procedures set forth herein.
2. **BAIL HEARING:** In any case in which a Judicial Officer shall exercise discretion to review an outstanding warrant issued in any Division of the King County District Court, the Judicial Officer may entertain a motion to quash the outstanding warrant, and, as part of such motion, may:

- a. Quash the outstanding warrant and order the defendant to appear at the issuing court within fourteen days following rescission of the warrant to secure a new court date, such release being made on such terms and conditions as the Judicial Officer hearing the motion may, in his/her discretion, impose. It is understood that the Judicial Officer or clerk of the court hearing such motion will ensure that the defendant's address is verified and is immediately forwarded to the issuing Court for future notices;
 - b. Reduce the bond required to be posted to secure release under the warrant, and to collect the bond and transmit same to the issuing Court. As part of that process, initiate steps to ensure that the outstanding warrant is recalled or quashed.
 - c. Order the defendant taken into custody. In such event, the issuing court shall be notified immediately that a defendant has been taken into custody on their outstanding warrant, so that further proceedings can be scheduled at the issuing court without delay.
3. ARRAIGNMENT: In any case in which a Judicial Officer of the King County District Court shall exercise discretion to review an outstanding warrant, the Judicial Officer may, in his/her discretion, entertain a motion to arraign such defendant, and, as part of such arraignment, may:
 - a. Arraign the defendant on the pending charge, including the entry of a plea of guilty or not guilty.
 - b. In the event a plea of "not guilty" is entered, the Court may direct the defendant to appear at the issuing court within fourteen days to arrange for an appearance date for the next court hearing at that court, and may impose such terms and conditions of release as it may, in its discretion, deem advisable.
 - c. In the event a plea of "guilty" is entered, the Court may either enter a sentence on plea of guilty, or may direct the defendant to appear at the issuing Court within fourteen days to arrange for an appearance date for the next hearing in that court, and may impose such terms and conditions of release as it may, in its discretion, deem advisable. In the event the Judicial Officer elects to enter sentence immediately, such sentence may include jail, fines, probation including conditions of probation (treatment, no contact, etc.). In such event, the sentencing Judicial Officer shall direct the transmittal of a copy of the sentence order to the warrant issuing court. The warrant issuing court shall thereafter be empowered, in its discretion, to lessen the amount of jail, the amount of fine, or modify the conditions of sentence.

ADOPTED by action of the Executive Committee of the King County District Court this 25th day of January, 2002.

Signed this 28th day of January, 2002.


J. Wesley Saint Clair, Presiding Judge
King County District Court