

# Superior Court of the State of Washington For Thurston County

Anne Hirsch, *Judge*  
Carol Murphy, *Judge*  
James Dixon, *Judge*  
Erik D. Price, *Judge*  
Christine Schaller, *Judge*  
Mary Sue Wilson, *Judge*  
John C. Skinder, *Judge*  
Chris Lanese, *Judge*



2000 Lakeridge Drive SW • Building Two • Olympia WA 98502  
**Telephone:** (360) 786-5560 **Website:** [www.co.thurston.wa.us/superior](http://www.co.thurston.wa.us/superior)

Pamela Hartman Beyer,  
*Court Administrator*  
Indu Thomas,  
*Court Commissioner*  
Jonathon Lack,  
*Court Commissioner*  
Nathan Kortokrax,  
*Court Commissioner*

June 4, 2018

To: Jon Tunheim, Thurston County Prosecuting Attorney  
Linda Myhre-Enlow, Thurston County Clerk  
Patrick O'Connor, Thurston County Public Defense  
Chief Todd Thoma, Thurston County Jail  
Marianne Clear, Director of Pretrial Services  
Thurston County Bar Association

From: Pamela Hartman Beyer, Thurston County Superior Court Administrator

Re: Reminder Felony Leadership Improvement Project Go Live Date June 1

Please remember that today, Friday, June 1, 2018, Thurston County Superior Court will be operating within the new felony case system for new criminal cases filed. All criminal cases filed beginning with Cause Number 18-1-00941-34 forward will be expected to follow the new case processing standards.

Thurston County Superior Court is excited to announce that after many months of meetings with stakeholders, discussion around system changes and evaluating input, we are implementing a new felony case processing system beginning June 1, 2018. Our system changes are grounded in recommendations from a report from the National Center of State Courts. A copy of that report is available on the courts website:  
<http://www.co.thurston.wa.us/superior/documents/ncsc-report-20170601.pdf>

## **Specifics of the June 1, 2018 implementation**

- New process to be implemented June 1, 2018 for all cases filed June 1 and after.
- Cases filed on April 30, 2018 and before must have a Consolidated Omnibus Order (COB) entered no later than July 31, 2018.
  - o For cases on or before April 30, 2018 COB's will be entered pursuant to agreement of the parties. If the parties are not agreed, they will need to set a hearing for argument on the issue.
- Prior to June 1, 2018, parties may use the new COB so long as it is agreed.

## **Documents explaining the new process and forms**

- The Thurston County Superior Court Felony Case Processing document explains our new process. The document is available on the Court's website (<http://www.co.thurston.wa.us/superior/>).
- There is a new COB which is available on the Court's website. Additionally, we are providing examples of three "model COB's" one for each category I, II, or III, which self-populates the event fields. Please make sure that you are always checking the box selecting a category when filling out your COB.

### **Change already Implemented to support system changes**

- Trial Confirmations are now scheduled on Thursdays approximately ten (10) days prior to the scheduled trial date at 8:30 a.m. The court is phasing out the Status calendar on Wednesdays at 9:00 a.m.

### **Changes coming in the near future**

- The Court has created a dedicated criminal ex parte calendar on Mondays from 8:10 a.m. - 8:40 a.m. and Tuesdays, Thursday and Fridays from 4:30 p.m. - 4:55 p.m. which was implemented on May 7, 2018.
- Treatment Review Hearings will be move to Fridays at 8:30 a.m. to coincide with the non-compliance calendar beginning next Friday, June 8, 2018. Please ensure that you are scheduling your Treatment Review Hearings at 8:30 a.m. on Fridays. If you have Treatment Review Hearings scheduled on a Tuesday past the week of June 4, 2018, those matters can remain set on a Tuesday, as currently scheduled.
- A First Look calendar to accommodate the work that the Prosecuting Attorney's Office and Thurston County Public Defense are doing to try to expedite and resolve cases. The First Look Calendar will be on Tuesdays from 8:30 a.m. - 9:55 a.m. starting on June 5, 2018.
- The court will be creating a new calendar on Wednesdays at 9:00 a.m. to hear COPAS for cases set the following week, motions for discovery and motions to continue cases set for trial. This calendar will start the week of July 16, 2018.
- Lastly, as parties attempt to resolve a backlog of about 600 cases from 2015, 2016, 2017 and through April 30, 2018, the court will add an additional COPAS calendar for a short duration to address the additional needs and capacity. We will hold the additional backlog COPAS calendar on Thursdays from 9:00 a.m. – 11:00 a.m. beginning the week of June 11, 2018, and will continue to evaluate our backlog and capacity. In order to be heard on this calendar you must provide the completed plea paperwork to Court Administration before the Notice of Hearing is filed and the Notice of Hearing must be filed no later than noon the day before the calendar. We anticipate that this calendar will last no longer than three months.

We will continue to evaluate our FLIP process and make changes to our system based on data and input from our stakeholders to improve our criminal justice system.