



SUPERIOR COURT *of* WASHINGTON

==== Cowlitz County ====

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Hall of Justice - 312 SW First Avenue - Kelso, WA 98626

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Thad E. Scudder

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Tierra A. Busby

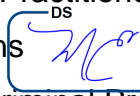
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MEMORANDUM

Date: October 19, 2020
To: Juvenile Criminal Law Practitioners
From: Judge Michael H. Evans 
Re: Changes to Juvenile Criminal Practices and Procedures

This memo provides notice of three changes in juvenile criminal practice and procedure.

1. Administrative concerns and difficulties result from the short period of time from juvenile criminal readiness hearings (Tuesday) and juvenile criminal fact findings (Thursday). To remedy these issues, all juvenile criminal readiness hearings shall be heard on a new fact finding readiness docket on Thursday at 8:30 AM, one week prior to the juvenile criminal fact finding. Effective November 5, 2020, all readiness hearings currently set on Tuesday, shall be changed to Thursday at 8:30 AM, one week prior to the fact finding. The new Thursday juvenile criminal readiness docket is solely reserved for readiness hearings. No guilty pleas will be allowed, but must be set for on the Tuesday juvenile criminal docket.
2. Effective immediately, all criminal juvenile motions involving court rules 3.5 and 3.6 shall be heard through videoconferencing, e.g. Zoom.
3. All juvenile criminal fact-findings will be heard virtually, unless a written motion requesting an in-person hearing is granted by the court. If the court allows for an in-person juvenile criminal fact-finding, it will be heard at the Hall of Justice.

Thank you for your cooperation in this matter.