



STATE OF WASHINGTON
— OFFICE OF GOVERNOR JAY INSLEE —

**PROCLAMATION BY THE GOVERNOR
AMENDING PROCLAMATIONS 20-05 and 20-64, et seq.**

20-64.6

**Public Records Act – Contact Tracing -- Personal Information
Termination of Emergency Proclamation**

WHEREAS, on February 29, 2020, I issued Proclamation 20-05, proclaiming a State of Emergency for all counties throughout the state of Washington as a result of the coronavirus disease 2019 (COVID-19) outbreak in the United States and confirmed person-to-person spread of COVID-19 in Washington State; and

WHEREAS, as a result of the continued worldwide spread of COVID-19, its significant progression in Washington State, and the high risk it poses to our most vulnerable populations, I have subsequently issued several amendatory proclamations, exercising my emergency powers under RCW 43.06.220 by prohibiting certain activities and waiving and suspending specified laws and regulations; and

WHEREAS, an effective response to the COVID-19 epidemic requires public health professionals and others working with them to interview those infected with COVID-19 and trace their close contacts in order to provide guidance to, quarantine, and test those individuals for infection to prevent further spread of the COVID-19 disease, and this must be done by collecting the names and personal information of these individuals; and

WHEREAS, while there are arguments that support the position that COVID-19 case investigation and contact tracing information, and the personally identifiable information that is gathered as a part of that work, is already exempt under the Public Records Act, I issued this emergency proclamation because ensuring the protection of a person's personally identifiable information may determine whether that person will fully cooperate with COVID-19 case investigators and contact tracers; and

WHEREAS, on January 15, 2021, under the provisions of RCW 43.06.220(4), the statutory waivers and suspensions of Proclamation 20-64, et seq., were extended by Senate Concurrent Resolution 8402 until the termination of the state of emergency pursuant to RCW 43.06.210, or until rescinded, whichever occurs first; and

WHEREAS, although COVID-19 continues as an ongoing and present threat in Washington State, the measures we have taken together as Washingtonians over the past 31 months, including the willingness of most Washingtonians to take advantage of the remarkable, life-saving vaccines being administered throughout the state, have made a

