



**PROCLAMATION BY THE GOVERNOR
AMENDING PROCLAMATION 20-05 and 20-45, et seq.**

20-45.8

Protection Orders and Personal Service

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, the COVID-19 disease, caused by a virus that spreads easily from person to person which may result in serious illness or death and has been classified by the World Health Organization as a worldwide pandemic, continues to broadly spread throughout Washington State, significantly increasing the threat of serious associated health risks statewide; and

WHEREAS, in response to the COVID-19 pandemic and consistent with directives from public health agencies such as the World Health Organization, the federal Center for Disease Control, and the State of Washington Department of Health, the Governor has issued amendatory Proclamations 20-25, et seq., *Safe Start, Stay Healthy* restricting Washington residents' movement outside their homes; and

WHEREAS, law enforcement agencies, advocates, and service providers nationally continue to report an increase in domestic violence reports, and domestic violence survivors must rely on protection orders, making access to emergency protection orders, access to expedient court review, processing, and service of orders vital to public safety; and

WHEREAS, on April 10, 2020, I issued Proclamation 20-45, waiving and suspending certain statutory requirements for personal service and in-person hearings that may not be necessary or appropriate for the individual case to will minimize personal contacts that could contribute to the spread of COVID-19; and

WHEREAS, under the provisions of RCW 43.06.220(4), the statutory waivers and suspensions of Proclamation 20-45, et seq., have been periodically reinstated and extended by the leadership of the Washington State Senate and House of Representatives, and which I have acknowledged in subsequent sequentially numbered proclamations; and

WHEREAS, on November 9, 2020, under the provisions of RCW 43.06.220(4), the statutory waivers and suspensions of Proclamations 20-45, et seq., were again extended by the leadership of the Washington State Senate and House of Representatives until the termination of the COVID-19 State of Emergency or 11:59 p.m. on December 7, 2020, whichever occurs first; and

WHEREAS, the worldwide COVID-19 pandemic and its progression in Washington State continue to threaten the life and health of our people as well as the economy of Washington State, and remain a public disaster affecting life, health, property or the public peace; and

WHEREAS, the Washington State Department of Health continues to maintain a Public Health Incident Management Team in coordination with the State Emergency Operations Center and other supporting state agencies to manage the public health aspects of the incident; and

WHEREAS, the Washington State Military Department Emergency Management Division, through the State Emergency Operations Center, continues coordinating resources across state government to support the Department of Health and local health officials in alleviating the impacts to people, property, and infrastructure, and continues coordinating with the Department of Health in assessing the impacts and long-term effects of the incident on Washington State and its people.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Jay Inslee, Governor of the state of Washington, as a result of the above noted situation, and under Chapters 38.08, 38.52, and 43.06 RCW, do hereby proclaim that a State of Emergency continues to exist in all counties of Washington State, that Proclamation 20-05, as amended, remains in effect, and that Proclamation 20-05 is amended and Proclamations 20-45, et seq., are amended to recognize the extension of statutory waivers and suspensions therein by the leadership of the Washington State Senate and House of Representatives until the termination of the COVID-19 State of Emergency or 11:59 p.m. on December 7, 2020, whichever occurs first.

I again direct that the plans and procedures of the *Washington State Comprehensive Emergency Management Plan* be implemented throughout state government. State agencies and departments are directed to continue utilizing state resources and doing everything reasonably possible to support implementation of the *Washington State Comprehensive Emergency Management Plan* and to assist affected political subdivisions in an effort to respond to and recover from the COVID-19 pandemic.

