

ADMINISTRATIVE ORDER 2021-09 SUPERSEDING ADMINISTRATIVE ORDERS 2020-02, 2020-03, 2020-04, 2020-06, 2020-07, 2020-11, 2020-15 AND 2020-25 AND AMENDING ADMINISTRATIVE ORDERS 2021-05 AND 2021-06

This Order supersedes and replaces the following Administrative Orders and any subsequent amendments:

- Administrative Order 2020-02 COVID-19 (Coronavirus);
- Administrative Order 2020-03 Court Operations Under COVID-19 Advisory;
- Administrative Order 2020-04 Gunnison County Court Closure;
- Administrative Order 2020-06 COVID-19 Order Regarding Certain Arrest Warrants to May 2020;
- Administrative Order 2020-07 COVID-19 Order Regarding Temporary Modified Bond;
- Administrative Order 2020-11 Re: COVID-19 Transition Plan;
- Administrative Order 2020-15 Re: Continuing Court Operations Under COVID-19 Advisory; and
- Administrative Order 2020-25 Re: Extending Admin Orders 2020-06 and 2020-07 and Court Operations.

Beginning in March 2020, the Court was limited in its operations in efforts to maintain public health, as recorded in Administrative Orders 2020-02, 2020-03, 2020-04, 2020-06, 2020-07, 2020-11, 2020-15 and 2020-25 and their subsequent amendments. On April 13, 2021, Governor Polis announced a policy shift allowing local government control over policies regarding health and safety during COVID-19 effective April 16, 2021. On May 6, 2021, Chief Justice Brian D. Boatright issued Updated Order Regarding COVID-19 and Operations of Colorado State Courts, directing state courts to work towards expanding operations and providing greater service to the public. The courts and court staff in the 7th Judicial District, in conjunction with local county public health departments, continue to make substantial efforts to prevent the spread of the disease and take precautions to reduce exposure and will continue to operate in a modified fashion with a focus on public health and safety while providing an opportunity for access to the justice system.

Pursuant to the authority granted in Chief Justice Directive 95-01 and Updated Order Regarding COVID-19 and Operation of Colorado State Courts, issued May 6, 2021 by Chief Justice Brian D. Boatright, the following is hereby ordered effective May 17, 2021.

1. Access to Courts and Proceedings: Anyone who is required to appear for a scheduled court matter such as a party, attorney, victim or witness in a case, or law enforcement shall be present before the Court unless explicitly provided an alternative method of appearance as approved by the presiding Judicial Officer. Upon the discretion of Judicial Officers, Webex will continue to be made available to parties with the connection information provided through written order of the Judicial Officer or the Court Clerk's Office.

2. Operations: The Court will resume regular business hours as follows, effective July 1, 2021:

- **Delta County Combined Courts: Monday – Friday, 8:00 a.m. – 4:30 p.m.**
- **Gunnison County Combined Courts: Monday – Friday, 8:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m.**
- **Hinsdale County Courthouse: Tuesdays and Fridays, 8:30 a.m. – 1:30 p.m.**
- **Montrose County Combined Courts: Monday – Friday 7:30 a.m. – 4:30 p.m.**
- **Ouray County Combined Courts: Monday – Thursday 9:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m. and 1:00 p.m. – 4:00 p.m.**
- **Note: The Montrose Associate Court in Nucla will remain on a modified schedule through 2021, the schedule is posted at <http://7thjudicialdistrictco.org/trial-courts/nucla/>**

3. Mask Requirements: Administrative Order 2021-06 Re: Mask Requirements dated and effective April 5, 2021 is hereby amended to reflect that social distancing requirements will be determined on a county by county basis. The social distancing requirement will be posted at the entrance to each court location in the 7th Judicial District. All other provisions of Administrative Order 2021-06 shall remain in effect.

4. Jury Trials: Administrative Order 2021-05 Re: Resuming, Scheduling and Conducting Jury Trials in the 7th Commencing April 5, 2021 on a Phased in Basis dated and effective March 17, 2021 is hereby amended as follows:

A Jury Trial Protocol has been adopted for the counties in the 7th Judicial District and allows for the safe holding of jury trials. Jury trials will not be held in any 7th Judicial District county without approval from local public health agencies and the Chief Judge, in accordance with the approved Jury Trial Protocol.


The Delta, Montrose, and Gunnison Counties Public Health Departments have approved the holding of jury trials with reduced social distancing of 3 feet and strict adherence to face coverings, effective immediately.

The Jury Commissioner shall update the Jury Trial Protocol with the requirements of each county. A copy of the Jury Trial Protocol is available from the Jury Commissioner or Clerk of Court upon request. All other provisions of Administrative Order 2021-05 shall remain in effect.

The Chief Judge will continue to monitor available information and recommendations from health organizations, and this Order may be revised or extended, as deemed necessary.

Dated this 13th day of May, 2021.

BY THE COURT:



J. Steven Patrick
Chief Judge

XC: 7th JD Judges
7th JD Clerks of Court
7th JD Probation
7th Judicial District, District Attorney
7th Judicial District, Office of the Public Defender