

EIGHTH JUDICIAL DISTRICT, STATE OF COLORADO LARIMER COUNTY AND JACKSON COUNTY 201 Laporte Avenue, Suite 100 Fort Collins, CO 80521 Telephone: (970) 494-3500	
ADMINISTRATIVE ORDER REGARDING PROBATION HOME VISITS	
ADMINISTRATIVE ORDER 2021-11	

The purpose of this order is to provide guidance and authority to the 8th Judicial District Probation Department regarding operations based on public health concerns related to the novel coronavirus (“COVID-19”). On June 29, 2021, Colorado Supreme Court Chief Justice Brian Boatright issued Order Regarding COVID-19 and Operation of Colorado State Probation Departments, providing Chief Judges with the authority to temporarily waive certain FY 2022 Probation Standards during the pandemic.

This order is issued due to the public health risk posed by COVID-19. It is imperative active steps be taken to slow the spread of COVID-19 and reasonable precautions be followed to reduce exposure to COVID-19, as this pandemic continues to threaten the health and well-being of the community. Equally important to the public’s COVID-19 health concerns is the responsibility of the probation department to provide an appropriate level of supervision and services for all individuals sentenced to supervision, based on the individual probationer’s risk of recidivism and public safety considerations.

The Probation Standards provide that “[a]dherence to the probation standards described herein is contingent upon the availability of adequate funding resources and adequate staffing levels.” The 8th Judicial District courts and probation have employed several precautionary measures designed to reduce the spread of COVID-19. Despite these efforts, the COVID incidence rate has risen in Larimer County.


IT IS HEREBY ORDERED:

- A. Pursuant to FY 2022 Probation Standards, certain probation caseloads require home visits including 3.11 (Adult), 4.15 (Juvenile), and specialized probation supervision including ISP, CCIP, SOISP, and JISP. Prior to completing home visits, a probation officer must have completed 2.06 Safety Training. The pandemic has created a backlog for this training and new probation officers are unable to complete this training as timely as they normally would. Consequently, these probation officers cannot conduct home visits on their assigned caseloads. Pursuant to Chief Justice Boatright's June 29, 2021 order and the authority provided to Chief Judges through that order, the 8th Judicial Probation Department may temporarily suspend in person home visits and comply with the spirit of FY 2022 Probation Standards by utilizing virtual means to complete the home visits, when available, or modifying the home visit to be in compliance with the 2.06 Safety Training.
- B. In determining whether the above referenced home visits will be virtual or modified, Chief Probation Officer Greg Otte or Deputy Chief Probation Officer Nicole Feltz shall consider whether public safety would be compromised.
- C. The 8th Judicial District Probation Officers and Supervisors shall first confer with Chief Probation Officer Greg Otte or Deputy Chief Probation Officer Nicole Feltz before taking any actions that involve modification of the above referenced home visits.
- D. All other FY 2022 Probation Standards remain in full effect.

The provisions of this order shall continue until further directive of Chief Justice Boatright, unless otherwise modified or extended by the Chief Judge.

Date: August 27, 2021.

BY THE COURT



Susan Blanco
Chief Judge, 8th Judicial District