IN THE DISTRICT AND COUNTY COURTS OF THE SEVENTH JUDICIAL DISTRICT

| | In the Matter of Maintaining Judicial |) | |
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| | Operations During the Novel Coronavirus | j | ORDER |
| | and COVID-19 Disease Restrictions | j | |

The Judges of the District and County Courts of the Seventh Judicial District are continually monitoring the public health considerations as these change on a daily basis, in an attempt to adjust court operations to comply with potential courthouse closings and the health, safety and welfare of those members of the public who utilize the courtrooms of this district. In an effort to comply with these restrictions and limitations, the Court hereby instructs, notifies and orders as follows:

- 1. The wearing of a face mask or face shield shall be required for any person, including legal counsel, entering the courtroom at any time, unless granted permission otherwise, by the Court, including allowing a testifying witness or an attorney permission to remove the mask once in the courtroom and seated. The Court shall have face masks available for any entrant into the courtroom to use. All masks shall cover the nose and mouth of the wearer.
- 2. Any and all exhibits to be offered for the Court's review shall be marked ahead of time, prior to the hearing, whenever possible.
- 3. Hand sanitizer dispensers shall be available on the bench, at the court reporter's and bailiff stations, at counsel table and at the entrance of the courtroom, for members of the public to use.
- 4. Public attendance in the courtroom shall be limited to the number of people who can safely occupy the courtroom while adhering to social distancing of at least six feet and shall occupy only those seats which have been previously marked by court staff.
- 5. Legal counsel are asked to attend to as much court business as possible at the court clerk's window. No legal counsel or anyone else shall be allowed into the court clerk's office without a face mask or face shield being

worn at all times and while adhering to a minimum of six feet social distancing at all times. There shall be no loitering in the clerk's office.

- 6. Any person entering the chambers of the Judge shall wear a face mask or face shield at all times and shall maintain social distancing of at least six feet. Attorneys shall not enter chambers without an appointment or receiving prior permission to do so.
- 7. Court personnel shall use disinfectant wipes in order to sanitize counsels table, chairs and microphones between cases, when appropriate. Additionally, the courtroom shall be cleaned and sanitized after each use, at the end of the court day. When not in use, the courtroom shall be locked and inaccessible to the public.

This Order is in conjunction with all prior Orders, and serves to supplement those Orders, accordingly.

Again, we ask for cooperation and patience as we all work together to get through this rare period of pandemic in our society.

Dated: October 22, 2020

Honorable James G. Kube

Presiding District Judge

Honorable Donna Taylor

Presiding County Judge