

FILED

NOV 10 2020

VALORIE BENDIXEN
CLERK OF DISTRICT COURT

**AMENDED ADMINISTRATIVE ORDER
OF THE DISTRICT COURT OF HALL COUNTY, NEBRASKA**

As indicated by the Central District Health Department's Covid risk dial being at 3.8 out of 4 and reports concerning availability of hospital beds in the community, the Covid-19 Pandemic has increased in severity. Additionally, the reliable scientific information available indicates that the pandemic is likely to increase in severity unless additional steps are implemented in the community. After consultation with the Clerk of the District Court, District Nine Probation, the Interpreter Coordinator and representatives of the bar, the District Court of Hall County, Nebraska enters the following Administrative Order implementing changes in procedures. The Court finds that the changes in procedure and scheduling are necessary to protect the public, litigants and court personnel. The Court orders that effective November 16, 2020, the following procedures are to be followed.

20 4 10

I. GENERAL PRECAUTIONARY MEASURES

A. All persons are required to wear a mask, face covering, scarf, or other device completely covering and concealing their noses and mouths and such masks at all times in the district courtrooms of Hall County, Nebraska.

B. No person shall be admitted to the Hall County Courthouse if they have a temperature of 100 degrees or more or if they refuse to have their temperature taken.

C. No more than 15 persons are allowed in courtrooms 1 and 2 of the Hall County District Court and no more than 7 persons are allowed in courtroom 3 at any time. The number of persons allowed in the courtroom may be limited or increased by permission of the court for a specific hearing upon good cause being shown. All proceedings before the Mental Health Board of Hall County, Nebraska, shall take place in District Courtroom No. 3 on Tuesdays and Fridays utilizing audio visual equipment unless otherwise ordered by the Chair of the Board.

D. Parties are encouraged to utilize web-based conferencing systems specifically Webex to conduct nonevidentiary hearings. Counsel for the parties are responsible for making arrangements for conference calls or web based hearings and shall notify the court's bailiff in advance of the hearing as to the method chosen. All web based hearings shall be conducted in:

- a. <https://meetingsamer7.webex.com/meet/markyoung> | 627265268; or
- b. <https://hallcountyne.webex.com/meet/abutler> | 1730713562.

II. CIVIL CASES

A. All nonjury civil cases scheduled for evidentiary hearings will be proceed as scheduled either in person or by audio visual platform if agreed to by the parties. The limitations concerning facial coverings and number of persons in the courtroom shall apply during all trials.

B. All civil hearings not requiring testimony and all civil pretrials shall be conducted either telephonically or using a web based system. The parties shall submit exhibits to the court by email or efile no later than 24 hours before the hearing and serve the same upon the opposing party.

III. CRIMINAL CASES

A. All defendants are excused from pretrial hearings until further order of the court. Counsel are still required to appear.

B. Defense counsel is encouraged to discuss with their clients waiving arraignment or participating via web based system.

C. By agreement of the parties, sentencings may be conducted remotely using web based system.

D. All hearings for persons in custody not requiring the presentation of evidence shall be conducted using Webex.

CRIMINAL JURY TRIALS

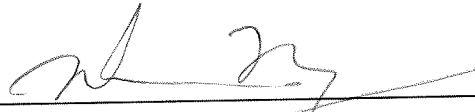
The Court orders that all criminal jury trials that are scheduled for November and December 2020 are continued to January 4, 2021, or as may be further continued by further order of the court. The Court finds that given the risk to jurors, court personnel, litigants and interpreters, the Court may not safely conduct jury trials at this time despite the best efforts of Hall County to provide a safe location for jury trials.

CONCLUSION

Unless modified by this order, all prior orders of the district court regarding Covid-19 procedures remain in full force and effect.

Dated this 10th day of November 2020.

BY THE COURT:



MARK J. YOUNG
PRESIDING DISTRICT JUDGE