

To: Corey Steel, State Court Administrator

From: Douglas County Court Judges, Thomas K. Harmon, Presiding Judge, Fourth Judicial District

Re: **AMENDED ADMINISTRATIVE ORDER - Novel Coronavirus, COVID-19 Disease Response Plan – AUGUST 30, 2021**

Pursuant to the Administrative Order of the Chief Justice of the Nebraska Supreme Court filed August 9, 2021, the Douglas County Court judges met, and the following uniform plan was adopted which shall be reviewed and amended from time to time in the event the State of Nebraska declares a state emergency.

Further, after a meeting on August 26, 2021 with various stakeholders the Court clarifies and amends its **ADMINISTRATIVE ORDER – Novel Coronavirus, COVID-19 Disease Response Plan** dated August 23, 2021, as follows:

1. In custody prisoners shall be transported for preliminary hearings without the need for a prior written request from counsel.
2. In custody prisoners shall be transported only for evidentiary matters to include trials, motions to suppress, contested sentencing, contested violations of probation hearings. Transportation shall be arranged only upon the written request of counsel designating the purpose for the prisoner's personal appearance in Court.
3. Under all circumstances, in custody prisoners are subject to transport protocols established by the Douglas County Department of Corrections and in the event an in custody prisoner shall test positive for COVID-19, he or she shall not be transported.
4. This plan may be modified and/or supplemented and will be reviewed periodically to determine whether it should be extended or withdrawn as circumstances may warrant.
5. The remainder of the August 23, 2021 **ADMINISTRATIVE ORDER - Novel Coronavirus, COVID-19 Disease Response Plan** stands.

Respectfully submitted this 30th day of August 2021.



Thomas K. Harmon, Presiding Judge Fourth Judicial District