

IN THE COUNTY COURTS OF THE FIFTH JUDICIAL DISTRICT OF NEBRASKA

)
)
) ADMINISTRATIVE ORDER
) (RE: COURT PROCEDURES AND THE
) CORONAVIRUS/COVID-19
) STATE OF EMERGENCY)
)

NOW ON THIS 20th day of March, 2020, this matter comes before the judges of the County Courts of the Fifth Judicial District on the Court's own motion to determine procedures to be utilized during the current state of emergency. Being fully advised in the premises, and in an effort to maintain judicial operations and access to the court system, while mitigating exposure to, and the spread of COVID-19, the Court finds and orders as follows:

On March 12, 2020, Nebraska Supreme Court Chief Justice Michael G. Heavican issued an administrative order regarding procedures to be followed in Nebraska's trial and appellate courts in response to the public health emergency caused by the novel coronavirus and the COVID-19 disease.

On March 13, 2020, President Donald J. Trump declared that the COVID-19 outbreak in the United States is a national emergency. That same day Governor Pete Ricketts declared that a state of emergency exists within the State of Nebraska as a result of the COVID-19 outbreak.

Since Nebraska's first reported case, community transmission of COVID-19 has occurred within the State of Nebraska, and will likely spread statewide. In response to this disease, the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) and the Nebraska Department of Health and Human (NEDHHS) services have established guidelines to reduce the risk of contracting or spreading COVID-19.

In conformity with the Chief Justice's administrative order, the federal and state emergency declarations, and the guidance from the CDC and the NEDHHS, court procedures in the County Courts of the Fifth Judicial District should be modified.

IT IS THEREFORE ORDERED, that, effective immediately, and until further Order of the Court, due to the emergencies declared by the President of the United States and the Governor of the State of Nebraska, as well as the guidelines established by the CDC and the NEDHHS, and in the Court's efforts to protect the health, safety, and welfare of the parties, attorneys, court staff, judges, and the general public, THE COURT FINDS good cause to exclude the time periods from

March 12, 2020, until further order of the Court, the speedy trial/adjudication computation in all criminal, traffic, and juvenile cases, which are currently pending before the Court or which will be filed during such periods and/or which are continued by the Court based on the above. See, Neb. Rev. Stat. §§ 29-1207(4)(f), 43-277, and 43-278.

BY THE COURT:

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "C. Jo Petersen", is written over a horizontal line.

C. Jo Petersen, Presiding Judge Fifth Judicial District