

IN THE COUNTY COURTS OF THE EIGHTH JUDICIAL DISTRICT OF NEBRASKA

)
)
) ADMINISTRATIVE ORDER
) (RE: RESTORATION OF NORMAL COURT
) PROCEDURES FOLLOWING THE COVID-19
) OUTBREAK)

NOW ON THIS 11th day of June, 2020, this matter comes before the judges of the County Courts of the 8th Judicial District on the Court's own motion to normalize county court operations and procedures following modifications made to address the COVID-19 outbreak. Being fully advised in the premises, the Court finds and orders as follows:

On March 12, 2020 and April 6, 2020, Nebraska Supreme Court Chief Justice Michael G. Heavican issued administrative orders 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.

In conformity with the Chief Justice's administrative orders, the federal and state emergency declarations, and the guidance from the CDC and the NEDHHS, court procedures in the County Courts of the 8th Judicial District were modified as ordered in this Court's Administrative Order of March 19, 2020.

Since the modified procedures were implemented, directed health measures and other restrictions have been loosened, courthouses have been reopened to the public, and courts are resuming efforts to operate as they did prior to the COVID-19 outbreak. The County Courts of the 8th Judicial District are following suit. As such, there is a need to modify the procedures established to address the COVID-19 outbreak.

IT IS THEREFORE ORDERED that the Administrative Order entered March 19, 2020 is hereby rescinded and superseded by this order.

The following changes are hereby implemented to begin to normalize county court operations and procedures:

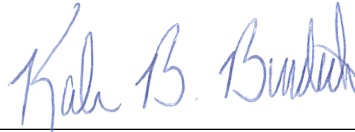
1. In-person proceedings will resume with priority being given to criminal, traffic, and juvenile cases. Requirements and limitations pertaining to in-person proceedings may be implemented by the Court on a county-by-county or case-by-

case basis. Please refer to the memorandum from Judge Burdick dated May 8, 2020, as well as Chief Justice Heavican's administrative orders entered March 12, 2020 and April 6, 2020.

2. In all case types, the use of written filings will continue to be encouraged to keep cases progressing while limiting the number of persons appearing for court proceedings (e.g. written denials/not guilty pleas, written requests for a preliminary hearing, written waiver of a preliminary hearing, stipulations and agreements, etc.).
3. In all case types, cases or motions filed prior to the date of this order, which have not been scheduled for hearing, shall be scheduled by the party or attorney filing such motion, in consultation with the Court.
4. Since priority will be given to criminal, traffic, and juvenile cases, pleadings and motions filed in civil or probate cases shall continue to be scheduled for hearing by the party or attorney filing such pleading or motion, in consultation with the Court.

SO ORDERED this 11th day of June, 2020.

BY THE COURT:



Kale B. Burdick, Presiding Judge