

NEBRASKA SUPREME COURT COURT APPEALS

IN THE SUPREME COURT OF THE STATE OF NEBRASKA

)

)

)

))

IN RE NOVEL CORONAVIRUS AND COVID-19 DISEASE

ADMINISTRATIVE ORDER OF THE CHIEF JUSTICE OF THE NEBRASKA SUPREME COURT

The Nebraska Supreme Court continues to monitor local and statewide conditions presented by the COVID-19 pandemic. In consideration of guidance and information from public health officials to mitigate the spread of COVID-19, the following general administrative order is entered pursuant to the authority vested in the Chief Justice of the Nebraska Supreme Court under Neb. Const. art. V, § 1 and Neb. Rev. Stat. § 25-2221,

IT IS THEREFORE ORDERED:

1. Any person who tests positive for COVID-19 shall not attend any in-person court proceeding until the person's isolation period has ended, and shall notify the local court prior to any scheduled court proceeding and follow the directive of the local court;

2. Any probationer, problem-solving court participant, or individual under presentence/ predisposition investigation who tests positive for COVID-19 shall notify the probation or supervision officer prior to having any in-person contact, shall follow the officer's directives for the duration of the person's isolation period, and shall continue to comply with all conditions of probation or supervision unless otherwise directed;

3. Persons who are sick and suspect that they have COVID-19 should test before entering any courtroom, probation office, or other judicial branch facility in Nebraska. If the test is positive, the person shall follow paragraph 1 or 2 above;

4. Persons shall be familiar with all local rules, court orders, written plans, and notices from the judicial district in which they have any pending matter;

5. Courts and probation offices may use telephonic or videoconferencing hearing options as allowed by local rule or by statute. Districts may also implement social distancing or spacing requirements, use of face coverings, providing hand sanitizer, and sanitizing highly touched surfaces and areas where court services and proceedings are occurring.

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that no court shall close unless or until the Chief Justice of the Nebraska Supreme Court has issued an order declaring a nonjudicial day. The May 21, March 13, April 6, June 30, and November 6, 2020, and August 9, 2021, Administrative Orders are superseded by this Order. This order shall remain in effect until otherwise ordered by the Nebraska Supreme Court.

Dated this 2 th day of February, 2023.

BY THE COURT

Michael G. Heavican, Chief Justice