

ADMINISTRATIVE ORDER 23-101

## **SUBJECT: RESCIND ADMINISTRATIVE ORDER 20-103**

Resumption of 20<sup>th</sup> Judicial District Operations at the Boulder County Jail Courtroom Effective 5:00 p.m., Friday, May 26,

2023

To: All Judicial Officers, Court Executive, Clerk of Court, Court Staff, District Attorney, Public

Defender, Boulder County Bar Association, Chief Probation Officer, Probation Staff,

Community Justice Services, County Attorney, Sheriff, Jail, Law Enforcement

From: Ingrid S. Bakke DATE: May 23, 2023

**Chief Judge** 

On June 30, 2020, Administrative Order 20-103 was issued significantly limiting in-person appearances at the Boulder County Jail Courtroom due to the public health risk posed by COVID-19.

Prior to the entry of Administrative Order 20-103, counsel from both the Office of the District Attorney and the Office of the Public Defender were required to appear in-person for all proceedings scheduled at the 20<sup>th</sup> Judicial District Courtroom located at the Boulder County Jail, 3200 Airport Road. In-person appearances were required, and shall continue to be required, for several reasons, including, but not limited to, the following:

- 1. Individuals appearing in-custody at the jail are often being seen by the Court for an initial appearance;
- 2. It is critically important that the judge, prosecutor and defense counsel be present, in-person, to reflect the solemnity of the proceeding;
- 3. Numerous court administrative tasks must be handled by the Court, the Office of the District Attorney and the Office of the Public Defender during the proceeding;
- 4. In-person appearances by the prosecutor and defense counsel promotes the early resolution of cases.

The sole basis for the limitation on in-person appearances was the public health risk posed by COVID-19. The Public Health Emergency (PHE) for COVID-19, declared under Section 319 of the Public Health Service (PHS) Act, expired at the end of the day on May 11, 2023.

Administrative Order 20-103 is rescinded effective at the end of the day on May 26, 2023 and the 20<sup>th</sup> Judicial District shall resume requiring in-person appearances at the 20<sup>th</sup> Judicial District Courtroom located at the Boulder County Jail, 3200 Airport Road pursuant to this Administrative Order 23-101.

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Hon. Ingrid S. Bakke Chief Judge Twentieth Judicial District