



media alert

Colorado Judicial Branch
Michael L. Bender, Chief Justice
Gerald Marroney, State Court Administrator

March 5, 2011

TO: Media covering the 3rd Judicial District (Huerfano and Las Animas counties)
FROM: Rob McCallum, Public Information Officer
RE: Cancellation of Court in Huerfano County

Court cancels Monday's jury trial at the Huerfano County Courthouse

Chief Judge Claude Appel ordered late Friday that the jury trial set for Monday at the Huerfano County Courthouse in Walsenburg be cancelled. Citizens of Huerfano County who received a jury summons to appear at the courthouse in Walsenburg on Monday do not need to appear at the courthouse. The trial has been moved to Trinidad in Las Animas County.

Chief Judge Appel cancelled the trial out of concern for public safety. On Friday large sections of rock broke loose from the front of the courthouse tower.

“Until we have an opportunity to evaluate the structural integrity of the Courthouse, I do not believe we should risk the safety and security of the public and our staff,” Chief Judge Appel said.

The Court is currently working with Huerfano County officials to find a suitable location for the Court to resume operations as soon as possible.



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