

SIXTH JUDICIAL DISTRICT
(La Plata, San Juan, and Archuleta Counties)

Administrative Order No. 2021-6

ORDER REGARDING THE RESUMPTION OF MANDATORY COURT APPEARANCES
FOR ARCHULETA COUNTY COURT CASES

Due to the increasing percentage of the population of adults in Archuleta and La Plata Counties being vaccinated against the virus that is the cause of COVID-19 and the reduction of new cases being reported in Archuleta County, the Court finds that so long as Colorado Department of Public Health and Environment and San Juan Basin Health Department orders regarding the use of facial coverings, social distancing and disinfection procedures are followed, it is safe to increase the number of in-person hearings and trials held in the courts of Archuleta County, Colorado.

Therefore, effective May 10, 2021, unless otherwise ordered by the Court, the following types of hearings and trials shall require personal appearance for parties and their attorneys in proceedings being held for Archuleta County cases in the La Plata County Courthouse:

COUNTY COURT CASES

All final traffic infraction hearings;
Small claims trials;
Permanent protection order hearings;
Forcible entry and detainer hearings; and,
Any other evidentiary hearings or trials.

DISTRICT COURT CASES

Civil Cases

All evidentiary hearings where one or more attorneys have entered an appearance;
Any other civil cases where the Court has ordered the parties and witnesses to personally appear;

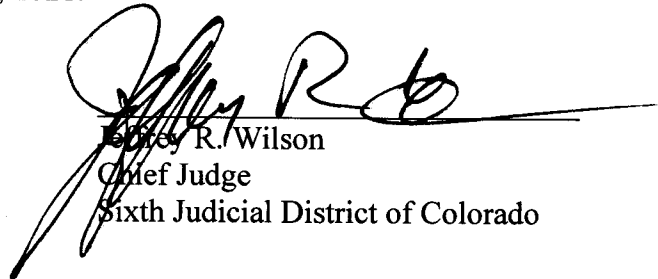
For out-of-custody criminal defendants:

- a. The entry of guilty pleas to felony charges;
- b. Sentencing hearings on felony charges;
- c. All evidentiary hearings, including hearings upon motions to revoke probation or deferred sentence: and,

For in-custody criminal defendants

There is currently no courthouse or other suitable facility available in Archuleta County within which the District Court can hold court proceedings. Until the Court can resume operations in Archuleta County with the opening of the new courthouse that is currently under construction, all district court in-custody criminal hearings will be presumed to be held remotely unless otherwise ordered by the Court.

SO ORDERED this 8th day of April, 2021.



Jeffrey R. Wilson
Chief Judge
Sixth Judicial District of Colorado