



**CHIEF JUDGE ORDER 2020-21
STATE OF COLORADO
FIRST JUDICIAL DISTRICT**

**JURY TRIALS BETWEEN NOVEMBER 2,
2020 AND JANUARY 18, 2021**

During the COVID-19 pandemic, federal, state, and local authorities have issued numerous orders to mitigate the spread of the disease. Due to a significant increase in the number of cases and a positivity rate of over 5% statewide, the Colorado Department of Public Health & Environment (CDPHE) issued the Third Amended Public Health Order 10-35 Safer at Home Dial on October 23, 2020. Six days later, the Jefferson County Public Health Department (JCPH) issued a similar order which implemented emergency measures to further reduce gathering sizes in a variety of settings within Jefferson County. See Jefferson County Public Health Order 20-009 Limiting Gatherings and Alcohol Sales (October 29, 2020). JCPH is doing so to slow the spread of the virus, limit the impact on the healthcare system, and permit continued business operations.

Since August 3, 2020, the First Judicial District has resumed jury trials. The District has tried 22 jury trials in district court (DCT) and 50 trials in county court (CCT). It has done so in a fair, safe, and effective manner which has been approved by JCPH.

Given the recent concerns about the spread of COVID 19 and in collaboration with the JCPH, the District will further limit jury trials as follows through January 18, 2021:

- All jury trials must be completed within the same week in which they were commenced.
- The District will not conduct jury trials during the two weeks following the Thanksgiving Holiday (November 30, 2020 through December 11, 2020) and the three weeks surrounding the Christmas and New Year's Holidays (December 28, 2020 through January 18, 2021).

The JCPH and District believe that these limitations are appropriate at this time. However, the District will continue to conduct jury trials in a fair, safe, and effective manner as described in prior orders. This order may be changed as necessary.

October 30, 2020



Jeffrey R. Pilkington, Chief Judge
First Judicial District