

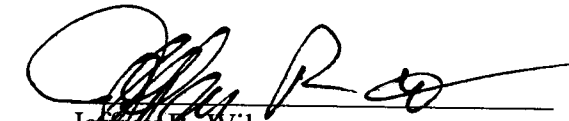
SIXTH JUDICIAL DISTRICT
(La Plata, San Juan, and Archuleta Counties)

Stay Upon the Implementation of Administrative Order No. 2021-7

When Administrative Order No. 2021-5 was issued resuming jury trials in the Sixth Judicial District, the Court anticipated that the number of new COVID-19 infections in La Plata County would soon decrease.¹ The Court anticipated new infections would decrease due to the end of ski season resulting in a fewer number of tourists visiting the county from other areas, the increase of new infections caused by families traveling during their children's spring break dissipating with passage of time, and the increasing number of citizens being vaccinated against COVID-19. Unfortunately, the daily rate of new infections has increased, not decreased as expected. According to the San Juan Basin Public Health COVID-19 Dashboard, <https://sjbpublichealth.org/sjbph-data-dashboard/>², during the 14 days ending on March 15, 2021, the daily average of new COVID-19 infections reported was 12.2 per day. In the 14 days ending on April 10, 2021, the daily average of new COVID-19 infections reported was 18 per day, nearly a 50% increase. The seven-day incidence rate of new infections was reported to be 245.6 persons per 100,000 population. The Colorado Department of Public Health and Environment classifies a seven-day incidence rate of more than 100 per 100,000 population to be a very high rate of new infections. See <https://covid19.colorado.gov/data>.

For the foregoing reasons, in order to protect the health of the citizens of La Plata County at large, as well as the health of jurors, litigants, and staff of the Sixth Judicial District, the District will stay the implementation of Administrative Order No. 2021-5 for three weeks. Effective May 6, 2021, and continuing until further administrative order, jury trials will resume in the County Courts of La Plata and San Juan Counties. Effective May 10, 2021, jury trials will resume in the District Courts of La Plata and San Juan Counties. Because of the lack of a courthouse in Archuleta County and current social distancing requirements, jury trials will not resume in Archuleta County until further administrative order.

SO ORDERED this ^{12th} day of April, 2021.


Jeffrey R. Wilson
Chief Judge
Sixth Judicial District of Colorado

¹ The Court relied upon the health circumstances in La Plata County, to issue this order due to the extremely low population of San Juan County, and the lack of a courthouse available in Archuleta County within which to conduct any courtroom operations.

² As of April 12, 2021. The most recent daily reports are subject to slight modification as the results for each day's tests are reported.