

<p>NINTH JUDICIAL DISTRICT, COLORADO  Court Address:       Garfield County Courthouse                                109 Eighth St., Suite 104                                Glenwood Springs, Colorado 81601</p> <p>Phone Number:       970-928-3065</p> <hr/> <p>ADMINISTRATIVE ORDER</p>	<p><input type="checkbox"/> COURT USE ONLY <input type="checkbox"/></p>
<p>The Honorable James B. Boyd</p>	<p>Administrative Order 22-02</p>
<p style="text-align: center;"><b>CONTINUED SUSPENSION OF JURY TRIALS</b></p>	

As reflected in prior Administrative Orders, the Ninth Judicial District has monitored, and adjusted to, changing circumstances related to the worldwide COVID-19 pandemic. As widely reported, the Omicron variant is driving a new and dramatic surge of coronavirus infections. The surge is here in the 9<sup>th</sup> District and expected to endure for some period of time.

After the Court’s last order suspending jury trials entered on January 6, 2022, the one-week incident rate (cases per 100,000 population) and the one-week test positivity rate continued to rise dramatically in all three 9<sup>th</sup> District counties. In two of the District’s counties (Garfield and Pitkin), the rates have started to drop. However, the rates all remain well above the threshold for the highest color red risk. The threshold used by the CDPHE for this level of risk is an incident rate over 500 and a test positivity rate over 10%. To drop to risk level yellow (a metric previously used in

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this District to trigger case-by-case decisions with approval from the Chief Judge, the 1-week incident rate would need to drop to 300, and the 1-week test positivity rate would need to drop to 7.5%. In the last seven days (Jan. 19, 2022 to January 26, 2022), as reported by the CDPHE, the one-week incident rate (cases per 100,000 population) changed in 9<sup>th</sup> Judicial District counties as follows:

Garfield County from 1424.2 to 1207.1 (risk level red)  
Pitkin County from 1958.2 to 1445.6 (risk level red)  
Rio Blanco County from 566.3 to 688.7 (risk level red)

The one-week test positivity rate has changed as follows:

Garfield County from 30% to 25% (risk level red)  
Pitkin County from 34.3% to 24.4% (risk level red)  
Rio Blanco County from 17.7% to 10.7% (risk level red)

On January 21, 2022, the Garfield County Public Health department reported, based on CDPHE reports,

State health department says Colorado omicron cases may be nearing peak, **slow decline predicted.**

Colorado cases of COVID-19 appear to be peaking in both the number of cases and percent positivity. There continues to be a lot of COVID-19 circulating in the community, and **the decline in cases will likely be slow.**

Overall trends are gradually declining, however, cases among 12- to 17-year-olds are still increasing.

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Based on the current surge, 19 of Colorado's 22 judicial districts are suspending jury trials, some on different schedules.

Due to these worsening circumstances, the courts of the Ninth District cannot safely assemble juries at present.

Pursuant to the authority granted in Chief Justice Directive 95-01 and Chief Justice Order dated July 24, 2020, it is hereby ORDERED as follows:

The Courts of the Ninth Judicial District hereby suspend the summoning of jurors for jury trials set through Friday, **February 11, 2022**. Any persons with a summons to report for jury duty during this time period are not required to appear.

Jury commissioners shall continue to summon jurors for any jury trials scheduled to begin on or after **Monday, February 14, 2022**. Jurors who have a jury summons for a date to appear commencing on or after February 14, 2022, should continue to monitor the Court's website for updates.

Except to confirm jurors will not be summoned and juries will not be available for the time covered by this order, this order by itself does not change any settings; specific changes shall only be by order of the judge presiding over a

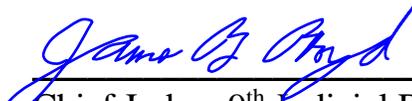
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particular case.

This order is subject to review and revision in accordance with ongoing pandemic trends and public health guidelines.

Done on January 27, 2022.

BY THE COURT

  
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Chief Judge, 9<sup>th</sup> Judicial District