

Due to the public health risk posed by COVID-19 (novel coronavirus) and information made available by the Centers for Disease Control, Colorado Department of Public Health and Environment, and local public health departments, recommending active steps to slow the spread of the disease and precautions to reduce the risk of exposure, effective immediately the Courts and Probation for the 10<sup>th</sup> Judicial District will operate with reduced staff and focus on matters of immediate concern for public health and safety.

Pursuant to authority granted in Chief Justice Directive 95-01 and the directives in Chief Justice Coats' Order dated March 16, 2020, as amended March 20, 2020, it is hereby ORDERED:

1. **Operations:** The Clerk's Office will be open from 8:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. Monday through Friday except legal holidays. Staff will be reduced as coordinated by the Court Executive and Clerk of Court, with approval by the Chief Judge.

2. **Filings:** During operating hours, paper filings will be accepted by mail or by placement in a public drop box. There may be significant delay in processing paper filings not related to public safety matters due to potential staffing level reductions.

3. **Mandatory Continuance and Limitations on Hearings:**

- a. For docketed matters beginning Monday, March 23, 2020, each division shall initiate rescheduling those matters, or hearing them by phone conference.
- b. The Court will continue to conduct hearings on public safety matters limited to the following:
  - i. Petitions for temporary civil protection orders and permanent protection order hearings
  - ii. Petitions for temporary emergency risk protection orders and hearings on emergency risk protection orders
  - iii. Crim.P.Rule 5 advisement for incarcerated persons and initial setting of bail
  - iv. Revocation hearings on complaints to revoke probation involving incarcerated defendants
  - v. Proceedings necessary to protect the constitutional rights of criminal defendants including bond-related matters and plea agreements for incarcerated individuals
  - vi. Detention hearings for juvenile delinquency cases
  - vii. Shelter hearings in dependency and neglect cases or other juvenile proceedings
  - viii. Petitions for appointment of an emergency guardian and/or special conservator
  - ix. Hearings on motions to restrict parenting time and parental abduction prevention
  - x. Emergency mental health proceedings
  - xi. Claims of exemption from garnishment or other collection actions.
  - xii. Removal of unauthorized persons under Article 40.1 of Title 13.
  - xiii. Other proceedings deemed necessary by the presiding judge, in consultation with the Chief Judge, to prevent a substantial risk of imminent financial hardship, or imminent risk to the health, safety or welfare of an individual or members of the community.

- c. When hearings are conducted for public safety matters the Court shall seek to limit in-person participation and encourage and accommodate telephone and/or video appearance for all participants.
4. **Jury Calls and Trials:** Excepting only criminal jury trials with imminent speedy trial issues, all jury calls and jury trials with a return date between March 23, 2020 and May 15, 2020 will be vacated. Any juror appearing in person in response to receiving a summons through May 15, 2020, for a civil trial shall have their service postponed consistent with this Order.
5. **Public Entry:** Anyone seeking entry to the Judicial Building who is experiencing, or appears to be experiencing a fever, cough, shortness of breath or other respiratory illness symptoms, will not be permitted to enter. Documentation of appearances for those scheduled to appear for court proceedings will be obtained. Anyone who is not permitted entry will either be given a new court date for a date after May 15, 2020, or will be directed to contact their attorney or probation officer for further information.
6. **Miscellaneous Court Services:** The services listed below will be provided by telephone only:
  - a. Self-Help Center
  - b. Collections
  - c. Records
  - d. Mediation
  - e. Case Management Conferences
7. **Probation Services:** Probation clients shall be supervised in a modified manner as directed by the Chief Probation Officer. All services shall be provided by telephone whenever possible.

The Chief Judge and Court Executive will continue to monitor available information and recommendations from the State Court Administrator's Office and health organizations. This Order may be revised or extended as deemed necessary.

Date: March 20, 2020.

BY THE COURT:



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DEBORAH EYLER  
CHIEF JUDGE