

DISTRICT COURT, MORGAN COUNTY, COLORADO Morgan County Justice Center 400 Warner Street Fort Morgan, Colorado 80701 Telephone: (970) 542-3435	
<hr/> <p>THE PEOPLE OF THE STATE OF COLORADO</p> <p>In the Interest of:</p> <p>ALL CHILDREN SUBJECT TO THE COURT'S JURISDICTION IN JUVENILE PROCEEDINGS</p> <p>and Concerning:</p> <p>ALL RESPONDENTS SUBJECT TO THE COURT'S JURISDICTION IN JUVENILE PROCEEDINGS</p>	<hr/> <p>▲ COURT USE ONLY ▲</p> <hr/> <p>ALL JV CASES</p> <p>Divisions C & D</p>
<p align="center">ORDER RE: DEPENDENCY AND NEGLECT DOCKETS AND HEARINGS</p>	

DUE TO the COVID-19 (Coronavirus) pandemic and continued spread of the virus throughout communities in the State of Colorado, including Morgan County, and in consideration of the health of the parties to these proceedings, including the respondent parents, children, counsel, guardian ad litem, caseworkers, court personnel and employees of the Morgan County Sheriff's Department, and in light of the need for "social distancing," which is not always possible in the Morgan County Justice Center, IT IS HEREBY ORDERED that beginning **June 1, 2020**, until further order of the court, all Dependency and Neglect Dockets and Hearings shall proceed either in person or by telephone (Webex Meeting) in accordance with the following procedures:

(1) At least three (3) days prior to the date of the hearing, the Morgan County Department of Human Services (herein "MCDHS") shall file with the court and serve on all parties, including the Guardian ad Litem and those persons not represented by counsel, a written report and proposed order.

(a) If there are no objections to the report and proposed order this shall be noted in the motion filed by the MCDHS and the parties shall not be required to appear, either in person or by telephone. The court will enter the proposed order and, if necessary, set the matter for hearing at a future date.

(b) If there are any objections to the report or proposed order, or if any party believes that it is necessary to conduct a hearing, the parties may appear either in person or by telephone (Webex Meeting).

(c) If a hearing is required, the parties shall be permitted to appear by telephone by connecting with Webex Meeting at the number provided by the court to counsel prior to the date of the hearing.

**It shall be the responsibility of counsel to provide the telephone number and access code to their clients prior to the hearing.*

***It shall not be necessary to obtain an order from the court to appear by telephone. Any party wishing to appear by telephone, rather than in person, shall be permitted to appear by telephone unless otherwise directed by the court.*

(2) Each case will be called separately and only the parties to that case shall be permitted to enter the courtroom. No children will be allowed to enter the courtroom or Morgan County Justice Center. Anyone appearing in person will be directed to remain in their car and outside of the Morgan County Justice Center until their case is called. The court is attempting to prevent the parties from congregating in the courtroom or hallways of the Morgan County Justice Center before or after their hearings.

**It shall be the responsibility of counsel to inform their clients of these procedures prior to the hearing and to obtain a cell phone number for contacting their clients who will be waiting outside of the Morgan County Justice Center.*

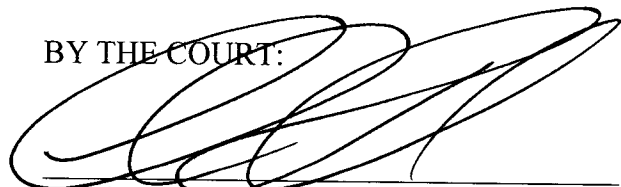
(3) All parties shall be required to wear a mask and maintain social distancing while in the Morgan County Justice Center, including the courtroom.

(4) Any person experiencing any symptoms of COVID-19 or having been exposed to the virus shall appear by telephone.

IT IS FURTHER ORDRED that this continued need for these procedures shall be reviewed by the court periodically and may be amended for the protection of everyone involved in these proceedings.

Dated this 28th day of May, 2020.

BY THE COURT:



Charles M. Hobbs – District Court Judge



Kevin L. Hoyer – District Court Judge