



16TH JUDICIAL DISTRICT, STATE OF COLORADO
BENT COUNTY, CROWLEY COUNTY, AND OTERO COUNTY

ADMINISTRATIVE ORDER)
REGARDING COURT OPERATIONS) 2020-05
UNDER COVID-19 ADVISORY)
)

In light of the public health risk posed by the Novel Corona Virus and COVID-19 and the advisories and orders from the Centers for Disease Control, the 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 of the 16th Judicial District will be operating with reduced staff and focus on matters of immediate concern for public safety.

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

1. **Operations:** All courts will be open 8:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m. and 1:00 p.m. to 5:00 pm., Monday to Friday, with the exception of legal holidays. Staff will be reduced as coordinated by the Clerks of Court and the Court Executive, with the approval of the Chief Judge. During operating hours court filings will be accepted at the window in each location.

2. **Mandatory Continuance and Limitations on Hearings.**

- a. Except for matters concerning public safety as described in section 2.b. below, ALL other appearances and/or hearings set from 8:00 a.m. Wednesday, March 18, 2020, through 5:00 p.m. Friday, April 3, 2020, are hereby VACATED and CONTINUED. All parties and counsel shall contact the appropriate court to reschedule. The courts may also initiate rescheduling. This section 2.a. applies to all jury trials **except** those in which a speedy trial deadline expires during the above time period. Any person that appears at a courthouse for a hearing that is not public safety matter shall be provided a new hearing date. This mandate includes all telephone conferences, except those scheduled with the Family Court Facilitator.