



**SEVENTEENTH JUDICIAL DISTRICT, STATE OF COLORADO
ADAMS AND BROOMFIELD COUNTIES**

**THIRD ADDENDUM TO NINTH AMENDED ADMINISTRATIVE ORDER
REGARDING COURT OPERATIONS UNDER COVID-19 EFFECTIVE NOVEMBER
23, 2020 UNTIL FURTHER NOTICE AND ORDER**

Issued January 26, 2021

ADDENDUM to 2020-01 A9

In light of the public health risk posed by COVID-19 (“novel coronavirus”) and the advisories and information circulated by the Centers for Disease Control (CDC), the Colorado Department of Public Health and Environment (CDPHE), and the Tri-County Health Department (TCHD), recommending active steps to slow the spread of the disease and precautions to reduce the risk of exposure, the 17th Judicial District Courts and Probation will continue to operate in an emergency status. Both Adams and Broomfield Counties currently remain in Level Orange (High Risk Status).

Chief Judge Anderson issued the *Ninth Amended Administrative Order Regarding Court Operations Under COVID-19 Effective November 23, 2020 Until Further Notice and Order* on November 23, 2020, because COVID-19 cases and hospitalizations remained high in Adams County.

This Court and additional 17th JD leaders met with the TCHD on January 6, 2021. TCHD recommended that jury trials be suspended in Adams County until at least February 16, 2021. That is the Suspension Order currently in place.

However, given the High Risk classification remains for both counties in the 17th JD, this Court consulted with the trial bench as to the suspension for jury trials being continued to March 1, 2021. The trial bench supports the extension until March 1, 2021. This Court, and the judicial officers in Adams and Broomfield Counties agree, that jury trials should be suspended until March 1, 2021 since jury panels cannot be safely assembled, and the additional on-site staff needed for trials would be put at risk given the High Risk level of Covid infection. This Court is also concerned about the impact of the more virulent strains of Covid that have recently been diagnosed in Colorado. This Court consulted with Tri-County Health staff concerning the extension of the trial suspension until March 1, 2021. Tri-County supports our suspension given our concerns of placing the public and our staff at risk given the current Orange status of both counties.

TCHD previously approved the request to recommence jury trials in PHASE I of the previously approved Jury Trial Plan dated September 17, 2020. Further, TCHD has approved the request to apply the Jury Trial Plan dated September 17, 2020 when we restart jury trials, and to move through the four Phases in the same manner as previously approved if feasible. Leadership will meet with TCHD before March 1, 2021 to discuss and determine the limitations on the number of people that can assemble in the jury assembly room, courtrooms, jury rooms and conference rooms.

By the Court,

Don Quick

Chief Judge

17th Judicial District

jury rooms and conference rooms in consideration of state and local health orders at that time.

SO ORDERED this 7th January, at 11:00 a.m.

By the COURT,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Emily E. Anderson".

EMILY E. ANDERSON
Chief Judge
Seventeenth Judicial District