

<p>TWENTY SECOND JUDICIAL DISTRICT in and for DOLORES AND MONTEZUMA COUNTIES</p> <p>STATE OF COLORADO</p>	
<p><b>ADMINISTRATIVE ORDER 2021-13 CONCERNING PROCEDURES IN DOLORES COUNTY</b></p>	

Covid-19 remains a highly contagious and deadly disease. The Colorado Department of Public Health and Environment (CDPHE) maintains up to date data concerning the frequency of Covid infections in each county in the state. The CDPHE maintains three major metrics in its attempt to track the incidence of the disease. These include a One-Week Cumulative Incidence of cases per 100,000 people, a One-Week Average Positivity rate and the number of hospitalizations reported in the past two weeks.

As of September 26, 2021, the One-Week cumulative incidence for Dolores County is 736.4 per 100,000 cases and the One -Week Average Positivity Rate is 23.9 % for the County. These numbers are the highest in the state in both categories and are cause for great concern. The undersigned expressly finds that a public health emergency exists in Dolores County.

Pursuant to the authority granted the undersigned by Chief Justice Directive 95-1 and in order to protect the health of litigants, witnesses, the public, and court staff; the undersigned orders that all proceedings in Dolores County Court and in the District Court in and for Dolores County, will be conducted by WebEx only. Personal appearances will not be allowed. The only exception to this order will be for criminal cases where

personal appearances are required by law and where the Defendant does not waive his or her appearance,

This order is effective as of September 28, 2021. The Clerk of the County Court is directed to contact as many persons who are presently scheduled for court appearances as soon as possible to inform them of this order. Signs will be posted on the courtroom door and in the clerk's office informing parties how to appear by WebEx. The clerk will inform any person who appear personally for court to connect using a computer or telephone through the WebEx and will provide information on how to do so.

Circumstances have changed rapidly and may continue to do so. The Chief Judge has the sole discretion to waive any provision of this order as he deems in the interest of the public and justice. The Chief Judge will continue to monitor available information and recommendations from health organizations and this order may be revised or extended, as deemed necessary. All are encouraged to regularly check the website for the Colorado Judicial Branch ([www.courts.state.co.us](http://www.courts.state.co.us)) for the latest information, including the page that is specific to the 22nd Judicial District.

APPROVED AND SIGNED this 27th day of September, 2021



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Douglas S. Walker  
Chief Judge, 22<sup>nd</sup> Judicial District