
**CHIEF JUDGE DIRECTIVE 20-16 APPROVING PHASED
RESUMPTION OF IN-PERSON HEARINGS**

WHEREAS: The Wisconsin Supreme Court in light of the COVID 19 Statewide and National states of emergency has entered certain orders related to the operations of the Circuit Court regarding in person appearances and jury trials;

WHEREAS: On March 22, 2020, the Wisconsin Supreme Court ordered that although the courts of the State of Wisconsin remain open, all civil and criminal jury trials scheduled to begin before May 22, 2020 are to continued and rescheduled by the assigned judge to a date after May 22, 2020;

WHEREAS: On March 22, 2020, and as amended on April 15, 2020, the Wisconsin Supreme Court suspended, until further order of the court, most in-person hearings in the circuit courts, subject to exceptions for certain matters, including those approved by the chief judges of each district, if remote technology is not practicable or adequate to protect constitutional rights of the citizens of Wisconsin;

WHEREAS: On March 31, 2020, the Wisconsin Supreme Court issued Interim Rule 20-02 which suspended statutory deadlines for conducting non-criminal jury trials until further order of the court:

WHEREAS: On May 22, 2020, the Wisconsin Supreme Court ordered that March 22, 2020 order regarding the suspension of jury trials, that Interim Rule 20-02 regarding suspension of deadlines for non-criminal jury trials, and the April 15, 2020 amended order regarding remote hearings, are extended for each circuit court until that circuit shall have prepared an operational plan for the safe resumption of in-person proceedings and jury trials and the plan shall have been approved by the chief judge of the applicable administrative district;

WHEREAS: On May 22, 2020, the Wisconsin Supreme Court outlined the specific criteria required in each circuit court operational plan as to how that circuit court will conduct in-person proceedings and jury trials so as to reduce to the greatest extent possible, the risk of transmission of the virus that causes COVID-19, and that promotes the health and safety of all those present in the courtrooms, jury rooms, and other court- related confined spaces of the circuit court;

WHEREAS: On June 25, 2020, Mary E. Triggiano, Chief Judge of the 1st Judicial District, approved operational plans for a phased resumption of in-person proceedings;

WHEREAS: The plan is the culmination of weeks of collaboration and consultation with numerous local justice system and Milwaukee County partners to:

develop protocols for the safe resumption of in-person proceedings in the 1st Judicial District; a requirement that all persons who are present in the courtrooms, and other court-related confined spaces shall wear face coverings, except as authorized on the record by said judge; outlines practices for appropriate sanitation/hygiene of frequently touched surfaces and the hands of participants; specify that notices regarding face coverings and availability of hand sanitizer and disinfecting wipes/ sprays in court-related areas will be appropriately posted and noticed; and incorporate many recommendations made in the Final Report of the Chief Justice's COVID-19 Task Force;

WHEREAS: All jury trials remain suspended until further order of the court;

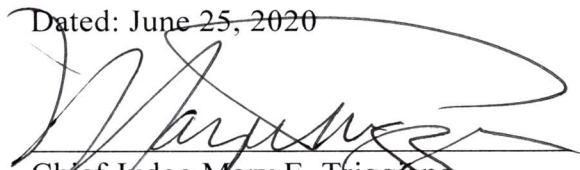
WHEREAS: A separate plan will address the resumption of jury trials;

THEREFORE, IT IS ORDERED:

The attached operational plan of the 1st Judicial District regarding procedures and practices for conducting in-person proceeding in the designated courtrooms during the 2020 public health emergency and COVID-19 pandemic are hereby approved and are effective June 29, 2020.

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that the provisions of this order shall be subject to further modification or termination by future orders.

Dated: June 25, 2020



Chief Judge Mary E. Triggiano
1st Judicial District of Wisconsin