



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

**AMENDED ADMINISTRATIVE ORDER)
REGARDING COURT OPERATIONS) 2020-01 A
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 17th Judicial District will be operating with reduced staff and a focus on matters of immediate concern for public safety.

Pursuant to the authority granted in Chief Justice Directive 95-01 and Chief Justice Order Regarding COVID-19 and Operation of Colorado State Court dated March 16, 2020, it is hereby ORDERED as follows:

1. **Operations:** Due to the crisis, we can no longer maintain normal functions and will be operating on an emergency basis. Staff will be reduced as coordinated by the Clerks of Court and the Court Executive, with the approval of the Chief Judge. The Adams County Justice Center and Broomfield Combined Courts will be open to the public from 7:30 a.m. to 5:00 pm., Monday to Friday, excepting legal holidays. For hours of operations for the clerks' offices in each courthouse, please go to the 17th Judicial District webpage located at https://www.courts.state.co.us/Courts/District/Index.cfm?District_ID=17 or call 303-659-1161 for the Adams County Justice Center and 303-464-5020 for the Broomfield Combined Courts.
2. **Mandatory Continuance and Limitations on Hearings.**
 - a. Except for matters concerning public safety as described in section 2.b. below, ALL other appearances, court trials and/or hearings set from 8:00 a.m., Tuesday, March 17, 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.

The section 2.a. applies to all jury trials scheduled through April 3, 2020, except the death penalty trial. Any person that appears at a courthouse for a hearing or appearance that is not a public safety matter shall be provided a new hearing date.

- b. The courts will continue to conduct hearings on public safety matters. Public safety matters are limited to the following:
 - i. Petitions for temporary civil protection orders and permanent protection order hearings;
 - ii. Petitions for temporary emergency risk protection orders and hearings on emergency risk protection orders;
 - iii. Crim.P. Rule 5 advisement for incarcerated persons and the initial setting of bail;
 - iv. Revocation hearings on complaints to revoke probation involving an incarcerated defendant;
 - v. Proceedings necessary to protect the constitutional rights of criminal defendants including bond-related matters and plea agreements for incarcerated individuals;
 - vi. Detention hearings for juvenile delinquency cases;
 - vii. Shelter hearings in dependency and neglect cases or other juvenile proceedings;
 - viii. Petitions for appointment of an emergency guardian and/or special conservator;
 - ix. Hearings on motions to restrict parenting time and parental abduction prevention;
 - x. Emergency mental health proceedings;
 - xi. Other proceedings deemed necessary by the Chief Judge (in consultation with the presiding judicial officer) to prevent a substantial risk of imminent financial hardship, or imminent risk to the health, safety or welfare of an individual or members of the community.
 - c. When hearings are conducted for public safety matters, courts shall discourage in person participation and encourage and accommodate telephone and/or video appearance for all participants.
 - d. In implementing this order, the 17th JD makes every effort to facilitate work from remote locations and to minimize or eliminate in-person proceedings and contact as stated in the Order Regarding COVID-19 and Operation of Colorado State Courts dated March 16, 2020.
- 3. Jury Calls.** All jury calls for a return date between March 17, 2020, and April 3, 2020 have been cancelled. Any jurors receiving a summons for this time period and who contact the jury commissioner with COVID-19 concerns shall have their service postponed consistent with this Order. Any juror that appears on a summons during the above time period shall have their service postponed.

4. **Social Distancing.** Social distancing shall be maintained with respect to all in-person activities within the courthouses.

5. **PLEASE DO NOT COME TO THE COURTHOUSE** if:

1. you have been diagnosed with COVID-19 (“Novel Coronavirus”) and you have not received a subsequent test confirming that you are currently virus-free;
2. you have been in direct contact with someone who has been diagnosed with COVID-19 within the past fourteen days;
3. you are experiencing a fever, cough, shortness of breath, or any other respiratory illness symptoms.

Until further notice, the court will permit persons to wear surgical masks and gloves in court and probation buildings if they so desire. Persons may also bring small plastic containers of hand sanitizer into court and probation buildings.

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.

SO ORDERED this 18th day of March, 2020.

By the COURT,



EMILY E. ANDERSON
Chief Judge
Seventeenth Judicial District