

State of North Dakota
Chambers of
The District Court

DANIEL D. NARUM
PRESIDING JUDGE
SOUTHEAST JUDICIAL DISTRICT
January 28, 2022

LAUREL ALBER
JUDICIAL SECRETARY
COURT RECORDER

RE: Covid-19 Courthouse Protocol-Southeast Judicial District Procedural Order

To All Counsel and Courthouse Personnel:

Much of the Southeast Judicial District is experiencing a recent and significant upward trend of Covid related cases. In consultation with the other judges from the Southeast Judicial District, it is our decision to immediately suspend both civil and criminal jury trials until March 1, 2022. All other deadlines for jury trials remain as scheduled.

In an effort to protect the public as well as the participants in court proceedings, the Court further orders that all master calendars may, at the discretion of the assigned judge, be conducted by Zoom absent any objection raised by the defendant and/or his/her counsel. Those defendants who require an in-person hearing will be taken up at the end of the applicable session. All other hearings will be held as indicated in their notice for the hearing.

Any person who has been in close contact with anyone who is Covid-19 positive or who is currently exhibiting symptoms should not enter the courthouse. Those individuals should contact the Clerk of Court and advise them of their condition. The assigned judge will be notified and may direct that the court appearance be made by Zoom. Current spacing requirement as of this date is six feet, unless you are with family or related persons. Masks are encouraged but not required.

At least five days prior to any Zoom hearing in which exhibits are offered, the parties shall exchange copies of the exhibits and shall file copies of all proposed exhibits in Odyssey.

Unless specifically extended on or before March 1, this Order shall expire.

Sincerely,



Honorable Daniel D. Narum
Presiding Judge