

IN DISTRICT COURT
SOUTHEAST JUDICIAL DISTRICT
STATE OF NORTH DAKOTA

ADMINISTRATIVE ORDER 2020-1 SUSPENDING JURY TRIALS

[1] A State of Emergency was declared by Governor Doug Bergum on March 13, 2020 in response to the global COVID-19 pandemic. The number of COVID-19 cases in North Dakota has sharply increased in the recent months.

[2] After consultation with the judges of the district and considering the new levels of increases of positive COVID-19 cases across the Southeast Judicial District, IT IS ORDERED that all jury trials in the Southeast Judicial District will be suspended until further notice. Any other hearing associated with the jury trials, including but not limited to pre-trials shall remain as scheduled.

[3] All parties set for trial on a given day will appear via remote access to either resolve the matter or set for another date. Such an appearance is required unless waived by the judge involved due to orders issued at a pretrial hearing or other order granting a continuance of the hearing.

[4] The Court will continuously monitor the designated risk level within the district and determine how to proceed in the future.

[5] The parties shall be given at least two weeks' notice of when trials shall resume.

[6] It is so ordered.

Dated this 11th day of December, 2020.

BY THE COURT:



Daniel D. Narum
Presiding Judge
Southeast Judicial District
State of North Dakota