

William Herauf
District Judge

Brenda Trochmann
Electronic Court Recorder
Tel.:(701)227-3163
Fax:(701)227-3156

STATE OF NORTH DAKOTA

Southwest Judicial District Court

51 3rd Street East
Dickinson, ND 58601

Shelly Michaelson
Calendar Control Clerk
Tel.:(701)227-3150

January 25, 2022

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

To All Counsel and Courthouse Personnel:

Consistent with happenings in the rest of the State of North Dakota, the Southwest Judicial District has experienced a recent and significant upward trend of Covid related cases. In consultation with the other Judges from the Southwest 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.

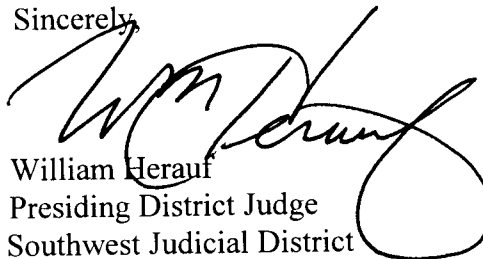
In an effort to protect the public as well as the participants in Court proceedings, the Court does further order that Criminal Pre-trials will be by Zoom absent any objection raised by the Defendant and/or his/her counsel. Those Defendants that have not waived a REM will be taken up at the end of the applicable session. Initial appearances associated with criminal matters as well as Failure to Comply hearings, will also be held by Zoom. All other hearings will be held as indicated in their notice for the hearing.

Any person who has been in close contact or are currently exhibiting symptoms should not enter the Courthouse. Those persons 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. The assigned Judge may limit the appearance of the general public and non-parties if there is insufficient spacing capacity. Masks are encouraged but not required.

Any hearing that is conducted by Zoom which necessitates a presentation of exhibits, the parties shall exchange copies of the exhibits five days prior to any hearing. Copies of all the exhibits must be filed in Odyssey at least five days prior to the Zoom hearing.

Unless specifically extended on or before March 1, this Order will lapse.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'W. Herauf', is written over the typed name and title.

William Herauf
Presiding District Judge
Southwest Judicial District