

IN DISTRICT COURT
SOUTHWEST JUDICIAL DISTRICT
STATE OF NORTH DAKOTA

ADMINISTRATIVE ORDER 2020-3 - AMENDMENT TO SUSPENDED JURY TRIALS

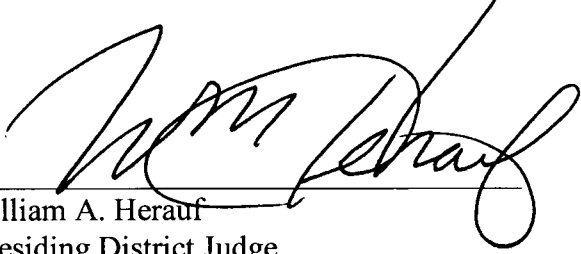
[1] A State of Emergency was declared by Governor Doug Burgum on March 13, 2020 in response to the global COVID-19 pandemic. The number of COVID-19 cases in North Dakota sharply rose during the months of October and November, 2020.

[2] As a result, Governor Burgum ordered the State of North Dakota to condition orange. The courthouses in the Southwest Judicial District remain either closed to the public, have jury trial restriction in effect for their buildings, or have limited conditions under which people can enter the courthouse.

[3] In response to the above referenced factors, this Court did enter an Order on November 24th, 2020 that provided for suspension of all jury trials in the Southwest Judicial District until further notice. In the order, the Court did notice all affected that there would be a minimum of a two week notice as to when trials shall resume.

[4] The Court has continued to monitor the situation and based upon the information that was provided to the Court and after consultation with the judges of the Southwest Judicial District, the Court amends its November 24th, 2020, Order and does hereby suspend jury trials in the Southwest Judicial District until February 1, 2021. Any other hearing associated with the jury trial, including but not limited to pre-trials shall remain as scheduled.

Dated this 12 day of December, 2020.



William A. Herauf
Presiding District Judge