

IN THE DISTRICT COURT OF THE SEVENTH JUDICIAL DISTRICT
OF THE STATE OF IDAHO

ORDER RE: COMMENCEMENT OF
JURY TRIAL AND GRAND JURY
PROCEEDINGS AND COURT
OPERATIONS IN THE SEVENTH
JUDICIAL DISTRICT

ADMINISTRATIVE ORDER

2022-08

Dane H. Watkins, Jr., Administrative District Judge of the Seventh Judicial District hereby finds and Orders as follows:

WHEREAS on February 17, 2022 the Idaho Supreme court issued its Order entitled ‘EMERGENCY ORDER REGARDING COURT SERVICES,’ (“Emergency Order”) effective February 28, 2022. Said Emergency Order provides guidance for judicial districts to prepare for the resumption of jury trials and impanelment of grand juries, while continuing to foster safety and mitigation against the spread of COVID-19 cases. The Emergency Order further provides for the Administrative District Judge of each Judicial District to exercise discretion with regard to implementing COVID-19 safety protocols; and,

WHEREAS, the Administrative District Judge finds that conditions vary between the counties of the Seventh Judicial District;

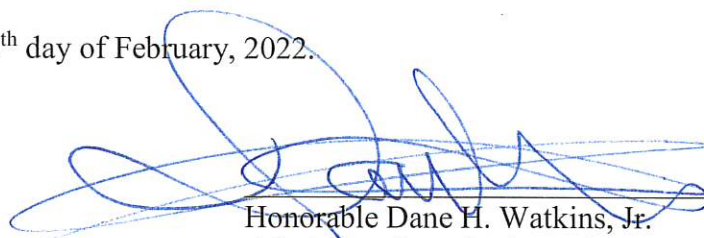
UNTIL FURTHER ORDER, IT IS HEREBY ORDERED as follows:

1. The resumption of the commencement of jury trials and grand jury proceedings is authorized effective February 28, 2022.
2. The decision to postpone a jury trial or grand jury proceeding due to COVID-19 related reasons shall be left to the discretion of the presiding judge, in consideration of any existing local COVID-19 health and safety ordinances, weekly COVID-19 trends, and in consultation with the Administrative District Judge.
3. The use of remote court proceedings or in-person hearings shall be at the discretion of the presiding judge, subject to the conditions and requirements set forth in paragraph 3 of the Emergency Order.

4. The use of appropriate health and safety protocols to reduce the risk of transmission of COVID-19 to persons entering a courtroom, courthouse or other locations designated for court business shall be left to the discretion of the presiding judge, in consideration of any existing local COVID-19 safety precaution ordinances, and in consultation with the Administrative District Judge. All said protocols shall be posted in compliance with paragraph 11 of the Emergency Order.

IT IS HEREBY ORDERED.

Dated this 25th day of February, 2022.



Honorable Dane H. Watkins, Jr.
Administrative District Judge
Seventh Judicial District

Cc:

7th Judicial District Elected Clerks
7th Judicial District Lead Clerks
7th Judicial District Magistrate, District & Senior Judges
7th Judicial District Court Reporters
7th Judicial District Jury Commissioners
Tammie D. Whyte, Trial Court Administrator
Sara Omundson, ADOC, Idaho Supreme Court