

**IN THE DISTRICT COURT OF THE THIRD JUDICIAL DISTRICT OF  
THE STATE OF IDAHO**

<b>Re: Temporary Suspension of Jury</b>	)	<b>Administrative Order</b>
<b>Trials in the Third Judicial District,</b>	)	<b>2020 – 17</b>
<b>Effective August 3, 2020</b>	)	
_____	)	

**WHEREAS**, pursuant to Idaho Code section 1-907, as Administrative Judge, the undersigned is charged with arranging or supervising the calendaring of matters for trial or hearing in the Third Judicial District, and

**WHEREAS**, the Idaho Supreme Court’s Order “In Re: Emergency Reduction in Court Services and Limitation of Access to Court Facilities,” dated April 22, 2020 and currently in effect, precludes the commencement of jury trials in criminal cases to commence before August 3, 2020, but does not require such jury trials to commence on August 3, 2020, and

**WHEREAS**, in furtherance of the above duty and, based upon all information available, the undersigned finds the following:

1. The coronavirus disease 2019 (COVID-19) is easily transmitted, especially in indoor group settings; and
2. Case rates in the counties of the Third Judicial District, as reported by the Idaho Division of Public Health, are significant and appear to be rising; and
3. A preliminary assessment of the number of qualified jurors available to serve on juries in the month of August is insufficient to conduct a meaningful number of jury trials in the counties of the Third Judicial District in the immediate future; and
4. It appears that the conduct of trials in the counties of the Third Judicial District under present circumstances would pose an unreasonable risk to the health and safety of jurors, court employees, parties, counsel and others who work in and with the courts of the Third Judicial District, even with the most careful planning; and
5. It is not clear, on the information currently available, when the above obstacles to the safe and efficient conduct of jury trials in the Third Judicial District will diminish or subside;

**IT IS ORDERED** that, effective August 3, 2020, jury trials in the courts and counties of the Third Judicial District shall continue to be suspended, and no juror shall be required to appear for trial, indefinitely, until further order of the undersigned, subject to any superseding Order entered by the Idaho Supreme Court.

Dated this 15 day of July, 2020



George A. Southworth  
Administrative District Judge  
Third Judicial District

Cc: Sara Thomas, Administrative Director of the Courts  
Hon. Barry Wood, Deputy Administrative Director  
District Judges of the Third Judicial District  
Magistrate Judges of the Third Judicial District  
District Court Clerks of the Third Judicial District  
Jury Commissioners of the Third Judicial District