

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

IN RE: ATTENDANCE OF COURT)
REPORTERS IN DISTRICT AND) Administrative Order 2020-05
MAGISTRATE COURT)

WHEREAS, pursuant to Idaho Court Administrative Rule (I.C.A.R.) 27(a), a certified court reporter shall attend all civil trials, hearings on dispositive motions, criminal trials, arraignments, plea hearings, evidentiary suppression hearings, and sentencing hearings in the district court, unless such attendance is waived in open court or by a written stipulation signed by the parties, or their counsel of record, and approved by the presiding district judge; and

WHEREAS, I.C.A.R. 27(h)(2) provides for emergency assistance in the event of the anticipated absence of a court reporter, allowing that the Administrative District Judge may suspend application of I.C.A.R. 27(a) and (h)(1) and order the recording of any or all proceedings listed in I.C.A.R. 27(a) to be by an electronic recording in accordance with I.C.A.R. 27(c) as the official court record until such time as the court reporter absence or vacancy have passed; and

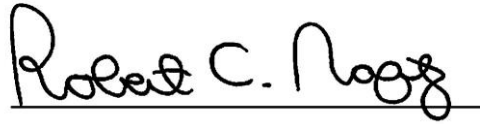
WHEREAS, one of the four court reporter positions in the Sixth Judicial District of Idaho has been vacant since 12/31/2018, making compliance with I.C.A.R. 27(a) extremely unlikely; and

WHEREAS, the Idaho Supreme Court has issued an Order regarding the Governor's Proclamation declaring a State of Emergency concerning the operations of the courts within the State of Idaho due to the COVID-19 pandemic and providing that the Administrative District Judge may implement additional local restrictions.

THEREFORE, consistent with I.C.A.R. 27(h)(2), it is ordered that the application of I.C.A.R. 27(a) and (h)(1) is suspended as to all proceedings presided over by district judges in the Sixth Judicial District of Idaho until such time as the court reporter vacancy has been filled and the Idaho Supreme COVID-19 Emergency Order has been rescinded. Each district judge, after consultation with the court reporter, shall have the discretion to waive the presence of the court reporter in the interest of public health and safety under the provisions of this Order.

Additionally, the attendance of court reporters in all proceedings presided over by magistrate judges in the Sixth Judicial District is excused and those proceedings shall be electronically recorded as the official court record and a court reporter shall transcribe those proceedings from the electronic recording as required by the court.

DATED this 18th day of March, 2020

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Robert C. Naftz". The signature is written in a cursive style and is positioned above a horizontal line.

Robert C. Naftz
Administrative District Judge
Sixth Judicial District

Copies:

All Judges in the Sixth Judicial District
All Elected Clerks in the Sixth Judicial District
All Official Court Reporters of the Sixth Judicial District
Sara Thomas, Administrative Director of the Courts
Kerry Hong, Trial Court Administrator