



# Circuit Court of the Third Judicial District Sweetwater County, State of Wyoming

John R. Prokos  
Circuit Court Judge

Kori Rossetti  
Clerk of Court

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Circuit Court Judge

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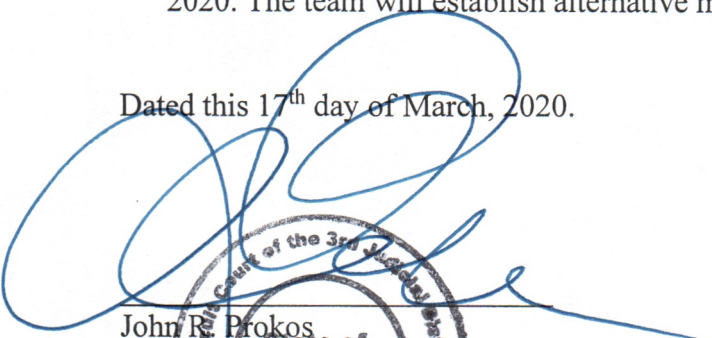
## ORDER CONCERNING CIRCUIT COURT PRACTICES DURING COVID-19 PANDEMIC OF 2020, CIRCUIT COURTS OF SWEETWATER COUNTY

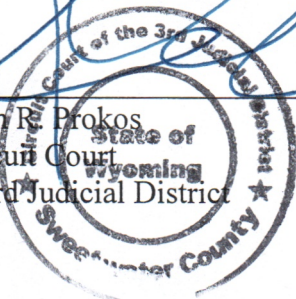
Due to the current state of Pandemic in the United States and reported cases in the State of Wyoming the Circuit Courts of the Third Judicial District, Sweetwater County are entering the following orders for management of the courts effective March 17, 2020:

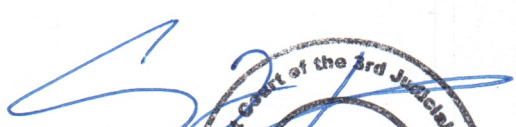
1. Only the following exigent proceedings shall be heard:
  - a. Criminal arraignments on misdemeanors and initial appearances for felony cases. These matters shall be held using video conferencing when any defendant is in custody.
  - b. Hearings for setting bond and modification of bond.
  - c. Preliminary hearings, which if the defendant is in custody the circuit courts intend to have the defendant present by video teleconference with allowance for communication with counsel.
  - d. Probation revocation proceedings with defendants in custody appearing by video teleconference with allowances for communication with counsel.
  - e. Civil protection orders for domestic violence, stalking and sexual assault will be set on the docket at the reviewing judge's discretion.
2. All jury trials are hereby cancelled between March 18, 2020, and May 1, 2020. The circuit court believes that should any individual case exceed 180 days such is due to an extraordinary circumstance and is required in the due administration of justice. W.R.Cr.P. 48(b)(4)(C).
3. Criminal cases will remain on the dockets as previously set for conferences and pre-trial with the goal being resolution of cases that can be resolved.
  - a. Parties are encouraged to conference by phone or emails. The court will provide blank conference forms as requested.
  - b. As allowed by rule the parties are encouraged to resolve matters in writing.
4. The 24/7 Sobriety monitoring program is hereby suspended. Remote electronic monitoring remains in place and testing by peace officers upon probable cause or reasonable suspicion.

5. The court will not be collecting fees for fax filing or emailing. While this order is in effect pleadings may be emailed to: [ccrks@courts.state.wy.us](mailto:ccrks@courts.state.wy.us). Counsel should call to ensure pleadings have been received. This does not apply to new civil filings.
6. No bench trial shall occur until after May 1, 2020.
7. The court will establish forms to allow written pleas of no contest on traffic violations for offenses with a penalty of less than six (6) months in jail. The form shall also include a provision in which a litigant may request time to pay.
8. The court shall create a form in which a *pro se* litigant may request a continuance of a case.
9. The court and security staff shall establish protocols to limit admission and congregation of persons at court facilities.
10. All other civil and small claims matters currently scheduled after March 20, 2020 through May 1, 2020 are continued until further notice of the court. Matters will be accepted for filing but not set until after May 1, 2020.
11. Treatment Court of Sweetwater County shall suspend regular sessions until after May 1, 2020. The team will establish alternative means for client monitoring.

Dated this 17<sup>th</sup> day of March, 2020.

  
John R. Prokos  
Circuit Court  
Third Judicial District



  
Craig L. Jones  
Circuit Court  
Third Judicial District

