

IN THE DISTRICT COURTS FOR THE SIXTH JUDICIAL DISTRICT
CAMPBELL, CROOK AND WESTON COUNTIES
STATE OF WYOMING

GENERAL ORDER
FOR THE DISTRICT COURTS IN
THE SIXTH JUDICIAL DISTRICT

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2022-01

SIXTH JUDICIAL DISTRICT COURT GENERAL ORDER
ADDRESSING COVID-19 OPERATING PLAN

THIS MATTER came before the Court on its own motion and after consultation with public health officials. The Court observes reports of new Covid-19 cases in Wyoming remain low after a precipitous decline since January of 2022. An average of less than one case per day was reported in Campbell and Crook Counties in the last week. Weston County has reported no new cases in the last week. More importantly, Covid-19 related deaths and hospitalizations across the Sixth Judicial District have also rapidly declined since January of 2022, and no new hospitalization or deaths were reported in the last week.¹

The Court has, over the last several months, already taken action to return court proceedings to relatively standard, pre-Covid-19 operation as reported cases, hospitalizations, and death have steadily and consistently declined. Though the Court recognizes different district court judges have conducted hearings and trials in different ways, this order represents the entire current operational plan for the Sixth Judicial District Court. The Court has already returned in large measure to in-person hearings, and this order reflects that return. Of course, consistent with advice from public health officials, masks will continue to remain available for all who want or require them. Participants are encouraged to practice social distancing when possible. Public health officials continue to recommend vaccination as the most effective means to prevent a Covid-19 infection.

Any participant who has any Covid-19 symptoms, or who has knowingly been exposed to the coronavirus, should notify the Court as early as possible before appearing at the courthouse. Similarly, any participant who is in a high-risk category can contact the Court to request a hearing using video technology. In-custody defendants who are symptomatic of coronavirus or who have been exposed to the same should not be transported to court facilities. The Court expects that all attorneys who appear before it will inquire of any associated party or witness if there are any health related reasons, *i.e.*, Covid-19 symptoms or recent exposure to Covid-19, they should not appear in court, and should any party or witness indicate that such circumstances exist, the attorney coming to know such information shall convey that information to the Court through appropriate means prior to any such person entering the courtroom.

¹ Sources: State and local health agencies (cases, deaths); U.S. Department of Health and Human Services (hospitalizations). Hospitalization data is a weekly average of Covid-19 patients in hospital service areas that intersect with Campbell, Crook, and Weston Counties. Wyoming recently transitioned from a 14-day reporting period to a 7 day reporting period.

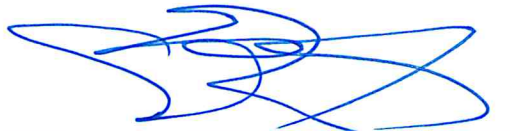
This order does not prohibit any court proceedings which may be conducted by telephone, video, teleconferencing, or other means not involving in-person contact. It is not intended to affect the Court's consideration of matters that can be resolved without in-person proceedings. Moreover, nothing in this order precludes a Sixth Judicial District Court Judge from implementing different standards as conditions require.

IT IS THEREFORE ORDERED that all persons appearing before in the Sixth Judicial District Court shall appear in-person;

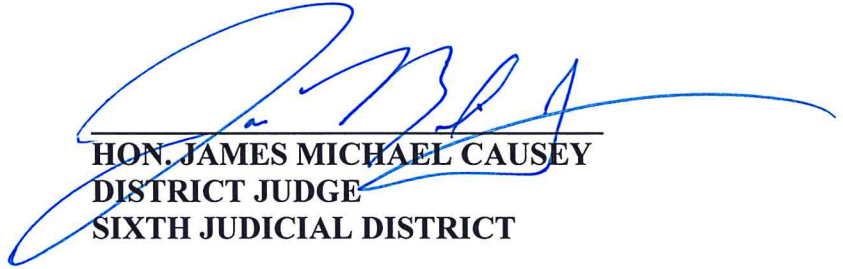
IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that any person wishing to appear by video technology must notify the Court at least 48 hours prior to the hearing unless circumstances make such advanced notification impossible. Any requests to appear remotely occurring less than 48 hours prior to any hearing may result in continuance of the hearing and potential sanctions

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that this order shall be effective immediately.

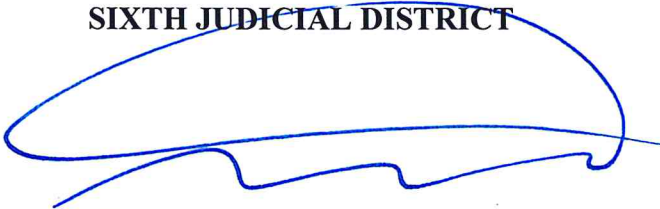
BY THE COURTS: May 2, 2022.



**HON. STUART S. HEALY III
DISTRICT JUDGE
SIXTH JUDICIAL DISTRICT**



**HON. JAMES MICHAEL CAUSEY
DISTRICT JUDGE
SIXTH JUDICIAL DISTRICT**



**HON. MATTHEW F.G. CASTANO
DISTRICT JUDGE
SIXTH JUDICIAL DISTRICT**