## CIRCUIT COURT, NINTH JUDICIAL DISTRICT, FREMONT COUNTY, WYOMING

450 North Second St., Room 230, Lander, WY 82520 Telephone: (307)332-3239

## **COVID-19 OPERATING PLAN**

The Supreme Court of Wyoming issued the *March 15, 2022 Order Amending March 18, 2020 Temporary Plan to Address Health Risks Posed by the COVID-19 Pandemic*. This order lifts previous limitations on in-person hearings. It allows jury trials and other hearings to be conducted in accordance with an appropriate operating plan.

According to the CDC website, as of the date of this order, more than half of adults in Fremont County are fully vaccinated with a first booster dose. Furthermore, the COVID-19 Community Level is "medium."

Therefore, all hearings will be held in-person, parties and their attorneys are expected to be present in the courtroom. The following exceptions will apply to this rule:

- 1. Mass arraignments/initial appearances for those incarcerated will be held by video. Attorneys and witnesses may appear by video.
- 2. The prosecuting attorney and witnesses may appear by video for Riverton preliminary hearings.
- 3. A party or attorney who resides outside of Fremont County may request to appear by video.
- 4. Anyone who has COVID-19 or is experiencing symptoms will not be permitted in the courtroom. If their presence is required, they will appear by video.
- 5. The court will consider other requests to appear by video on an individual basis.

Everyone entering the circuit courtroom will have the option of wearing a face covering. Moreover, the court will accommodate social distancing at the request of any person who wishes.

Potential jurors who have COVID-19 or are experiencing symptoms should request to be excused before coming to the courthouse. Potential jurors who are members of a vulnerable population may request to be excused from service.

The court will liberally grant continuances that are properly requested because of COVID-19.

This plan will be amended if the COVID-19 situation changes in Fremont County.

Date 6/20/2022