

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

IN RE: TEMPORARY SUSPENSION OF)
CRIMINAL JURY TRIALS IN THE SIXTH)
JUDICIAL DISTRICT OF IDAHO EFFECTIVE) Administrative Order 2020-12
AUGUST 3, 2020.)

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 Sixth 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 before August 3, 2020, but does not require such jury trials to commence on August 3, 2020, and

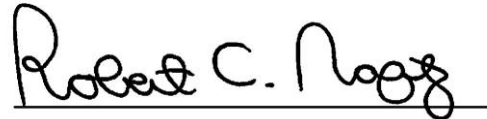
WHEREAS, in furtherance of the above duty and, based upon information available, the undersigned finds the following:

1. The coronavirus disease 2019 (COVID-19) is easily transmitted, especially in indoor group settings; and
2. Overall case numbers in the counties of the Southeastern Idaho Public Health District have steadily increased since 6/29/2020 and the following counties in the Sixth Judicial District are experiencing community spread of COVID-19: Bannock, Caribou, Franklin, and Power; and
3. It is uncertain whether the number of qualified jurors available after COVID screening will be sufficient to conduct a meaningful number of jury trials in the counties of the Sixth Judicial District in the immediate future; and
4. It appears that conducting jury trials in the counties of the Sixth 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 Sixth Judicial District, based on current planning; and
5. It is not clear, on the information currently available, when the above obstacles to the safe and efficient conduct of criminal jury trials in the Sixth Judicial District will diminish or subside.

IT IS ORDERED that, effective August 3, 2020, jury trials in the courts and counties of the Sixth 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.

IT IS SO ORDERD.

DATED this 22th day of July, 2020.

A handwritten signature in black ink, reading "Robert C. Naftz", written over a horizontal line.

ROBERT C. NAFTZ
District Judge

cc:

All Sixth District Judges

All Members of the Sixth District Bar

All Sixth District Elected Clerks

All Sixth District Jury Commissioners

Sixth Judicial District Trial Court Administrator

Idaho Supreme Court