

IN THE DISTRICT COURT OF JOHNSON COUNTY, KANSAS

Administrative Order No. 20-14

RE: Supplemental Order Resuming Court Operations:
Updated Phase II

This order supersedes the proposed Phase II as provided in Administrative Orders 20-09 and 20-10.

In consultation with the local health officials, the Court has determined that the required gating criteria to transition to Phase III have not been met. Although the Johnson County stay-at-home order has been lifted, the required downward trajectory of positive COVID-19 cases for 14 consecutive days has not occurred. Therefore, the transition to Phase III as proposed in AO 20-09 and AO 20-10 shall be delayed until further notice.

The Supreme Court continues to publish revised administrative orders affecting the operation of district courts. Order 2020-PR-076 states “all hearings should be conducted remotely, if possible”. The Order further restricts jury trials “unless necessary to preserve a constitutional speedy trial right.” Finally, the Order encourages continued telework and in-person employee rotation.

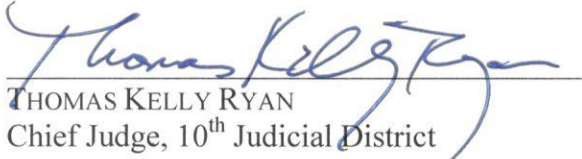
Therefore it is Ordered the following shall apply to the current Phase II:

Phase II As Amended Following Kansas Supreme Court Orders 2020-PR-048 and 2020-PR-076	
Phase II	Remote proceedings are preferred per Supreme Court 2020-PR-076. All hearings will proceed remotely unless an in-person hearing is authorized by the assigned judge.
Current Phase until further notice	Limited in-person proceedings may occur where the presiding judge has ensured all social distancing recommendations have been implemented and will be enforced. Large dockets including traffic, Chapter 61, and second appearances shall be conducted remotely. Public service counters open where all social distancing recommendations have been implemented and will be enforced.

The Court will provide updates regarding phase level changes and progress through www.courts.jocogov.org, listserv distribution, and other social and broadcast media.

Individual divisions of the Court may be on a slower schedule for re-opening phases and restoration to full pre-pandemic response levels of service; and will not occur sooner than this Order allows.

IT IS SO ORDERED, this 1st day of July 2020.


THOMAS KELLY RYAN
Chief Judge, 10th Judicial District

Original:
Clerk of the District Court

Copies:
All Judges
Katherine Stocks, Court Administrator
Office of the District Attorney
Office of the Public Defender
Office of the Sheriff
Johnson County Bar Association
JoCo Courts Listserv