

STATE OF NORTH CAROLINA
WAKE COUNTY

IN THE GENERAL COURT OF JUSTICE
FILE NO: 20 R 658

JOINT DISTRICT AND SUPERIOR)
COURT ADMINISTRATIVE ORDER)
REGARDING COVID-19 MEASURES)
AND ADOPTION OF A JURY TRIAL)
RESUMPTION PLAN)

FILED
2009 SEP 30 PM 12:08
WAKE CO., C.S.C.

THIS ADMINISTRATIVE ORDER is being entered to ensure the fair and proper administration of justice, to establish a plan for the safe resumption of jury trials within the 10th Judicial District, and in conformance with Emergency Directive 22 issued by the Chief Justice of the North Carolina Supreme Court. The undersigned enter this Administrative Order pursuant to the inherent authority of the court and pursuant to their administrative supervision and authority over the operation of the Superior Courts and District Courts under N.C.G.S. 7A-41.1 and N.C.G.S. 7A-146 as Senior Resident Superior Court Judge and Chief District Court Judge respectively for the Tenth Judicial District of North Carolina.

Whereas COVID-19 is a respiratory disease that can result in serious illness or death by the SARS-CoV-2 virus which is a new strain of coronavirus that can be spread from person to person; and

Whereas the Governor of North Carolina, on March 10, 2020, by Executive Order declared a state of emergency to coordinate response and protective actions to prevent the spread of COVID-19; and

Whereas the Chief Justice of the North Carolina Supreme Court, by Order dated September 15, 2020, continued in force various Emergency Directives and re-affirmed, pursuant to N.C.G.S. 7A-39(b)(2), that catastrophic conditions resulting from the COVID-19 outbreak have existed and continue to exist in all counties of this state; and

Whereas, on May 21, 2020, the Chief Justice of the North Carolina Supreme Court, in Emergency Directive 10, ordered that no jury trials be convened in the district or superior courts of this State; and

Whereas, on July 16, 2020, the Chief Justice of the North Carolina Supreme Court, in Emergency Directive 22, directed the senior resident superior court judge of each judicial district, in consultation with other local officials, to draft a plan for the resumption of jury trials in his or her judicial district; and

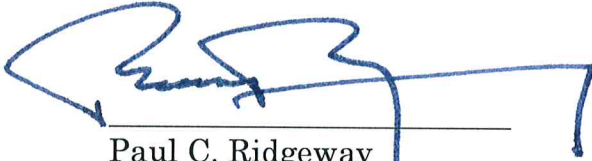
Whereas, the undersigned senior resident superior court judge, chief district court judge, and other local officials in the 10th Judicial District have collaborated and formulated a plan for the resumption of jury trials that endeavors to ensure that all court operations are in compliance with each of the Chief Justice's emergency directives and is informed by the Best Safety Practices distributed by the North Carolina Administrative Office of the Courts; and

Whereas, the 10th Judicial District Jury Trial Resumption Plan has been submitted to the Chief Justice of the North Carolina Supreme Court in accordance with Emergency Order 22;

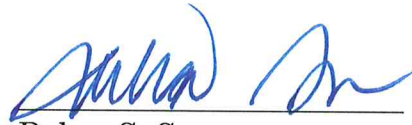
WHEREFORE, IT IS HEREBY ORDERED that:

1. The 10th Judicial District Jury Trial Resumption Plan, attached hereto, is adopted as an Order of the Superior and District Courts of the 10th Judicial District.
2. The 10th Judicial District Jury Trial Resumption Plan shall be effective upon the expiration of Emergency Directive 10 of the Chief Justice of the North Carolina Supreme Court; thereafter, all jury trials conducted in the 10th Judicial District shall comply with the requirements set out in the Plan as well as any amendments or operational guidelines related thereto.
3. This Administrative Order shall remain in effect until such time as it is modified or withdrawn by subsequent Administrative Order.

Entered and effective this the 30th day of September, 2020.



Paul C. Ridgeway
Senior Resident Superior Court Judge
Tenth Judicial District



Debra S. Sasser
Chief District Court Judge
Tenth Judicial District