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STATE OF NORTH CAROLINA IN THE GENERAL COURT OF JUSTICE  
COUNTY OF FORSYTH SUPERIOR COURT DIVISION

2022 JAN 26 P 3:12

FORSYTH CO., C.S.C.  
BY *Jawon H. Lee*

ADMINISTRATIVE ORDER

The undersigned Senior Resident Superior Court Judge for Judicial District 21 enters this Administrative Order in response to the continuing coronavirus COVID-19 pandemic.

IT APPEARING TO THE COURT that Article 1, Section 18 of the North Carolina Constitution provides: "Courts shall be open. All courts shall be open; every person for an injury done him in his lands, goods, person, and reputation shall have remedy by due course of law; and right and justice shall be administered without favor, denial, or delay."

AND IT FURTHER APPEARING TO THE COURT that for the health and safety of all, our courts have operated on a limited basis. That now and each day, more people are taking advantage of the available medicine which may help in the effort to eradicate the COVID-19 virus. And that while the COVID pandemic continues to be of grave concern, our courts must now resume a path towards full operation.

IT IS THEREFORE **ORDERED**:

1. That beginning January 31, 2022, superior courts may begin conducting superior court jury trials. Criminal superior court jury trials shall be conducted in courtrooms 5A, and 6B and may also be held in courtroom 6A when it is not being used to hold civil superior court.
2. That only three jury pools will be summoned during any one week of superior court for use by all superior courts in session.
3. That the pre-pandemic number of jurors shall be summoned and shall report to the original jury room.
4. That in lieu of social distancing, each juror shall always wear a mask.
5. That if a larger courtroom is available, it may be used as a jury room to facilitate some social distancing.
6. That no more than two jury trials shall begin on the same day to ensure enough jurors are available to serve in each courtroom. There are no restrictions on the type of cases which the State may call for trial.
7. This Administrative Order shall be posted outside Courtroom 5A, 6A and the Jury Room. It shall be distributed to the Forsyth County Bar and all relevant stakeholders.
8. That any continued delay in criminal jury trials since August 30<sup>th</sup>, 2021, is a result of the unprecedented nature of the COVID-19 pandemic and during this time the District Attorney's Office was limited in the number and types of jury trials it could schedule.
9. That the Administrative Order entered on August 30<sup>th</sup>, 2021, is hereby rescinded.

10. That the Court will continue to assess the pandemic related metrics and will issue another order when jury trials can resume without limitation.

This the 26<sup>th</sup> day of January 2022.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "L. Todd Burke". The signature is written in a cursive style and is positioned above a horizontal line.

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The Honorable L. Todd Burke  
Senior Resident Superior Court Judge