

FILED

STATE OF NORTH CAROLINA

IN THE GENERAL COURT OF JUSTICE

2020 OCT 13 P 1:25

SUPERIOR COURT DIVISION

CALDWELL COUNTY, C.S.C.

COUNTY OF CALDWELL

20-R-513

BY _____

IN THE MATTER OF THE OPERATION OF
THE GENERAL COURT OF JUSTICE FOR
CALDWELL COUNTY

ADMINISTRATIVE ORDER FOR
THE RESUMPTION OF JURY
TRIALS

This matter came on before Robert C. Ervin, Senior Resident Superior Court Judge, in the exercise of the Court's in chambers jurisdiction, pursuant to Emergency Directive 22 promulgated by Cheri Beasley, Chief Justice of the Supreme Court of North Carolina on July 16, 2020 concerning the resumption of jury trials. The Court, pursuant to Emergency Directive 22, enters the following administrative order. It is hereby ordered that:

COMPLIANCE WITH PRECEDING EMERGENCY DIRECTIVES. The Court has reviewed Emergency Directives 1-22 and believes that this Administrative Order and the plan for the resumption of jury trials complies with those directives.

FACE COVERINGS. Pursuant to Emergency Directive 21 promulgated by Cheri Beasley, Chief Justice of the Supreme Court of North Carolina on July 16, 2020, every person who is present at the courthouse to participate in a jury trial, including prospective jurors, attorneys, parties and court personnel, is required to wear a face covering while they are in any area described in this plan unless subject to the limited exclusions in Chief Justice Beasley's Emergency Directive or unless required to remove the face covering in accordance with the provisions of this plan. It is anticipated that disposable face coverings can be made available to those who are present who do not have one.

FACE COVERINGS FOR ATTORNEYS. Attorneys who are questioning jurors or witnesses or who are arguing to the Court or the jury will not be required to wear face coverings while speaking or listening to matters to which they may be called upon to object during the course of the trial. If multiple attorneys are representing a particular party, only the attorney who is actually speaking or likely to speak may remove his or her face covering.

JURY SUMMONSES. Jury summonses will be handled in the same manner in which those summonses were handled prior to the advent of the COVID-19 virus. However, a letter signed by the Senior Resident Superior Court Judge and the Resident Superior Court Judge will be sent to those prospective jurors with the summons to explain the precautions that are being made in an effort to reduce the risks posed by jury service. A copy of this letter is attached as Exhibit A to this plan.

