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NORTH CAROLINA
PITT COUNTY

IN THE GENERAL COURT OF JUSTICE
SUPERIOR AND DISTRICT
COURT DIVISIONS

FILED

2021 JAN 25 P 2:35

IN RE:

CORONAVIRUS)
COVID-19)

ADMINISTRATIVE ORDER RE
RESUMPTION OF JURY TRIALS

PITT CO., C.S.C.
BY _____

The undersigned Senior Resident Superior Court Judge for Judicial District 3A enters this Administrative Order in response to coronavirus COVID-19.

IT APPEARING TO THE COURT That the Chief Justice declared that each Senior Resident Superior Court Judge, in consultation with other local officials, craft a plan for the resumption of jury trials in his or her judicial district.

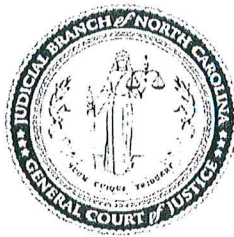
WHEREAS, the jury trial resumption plan is to ensure that all court operations are in compliance with the Chief Justice's emergency directives distributed by the North Carolina Administrative Office of the Courts.

THEREFORE, the attached Memorandum dated September 30, 2020, shall be adopted as the plan for resumption of jury trials for Judicial District 3A (Pitt County).

This the 25th day of January, 2021.



Marvin K. Blount III
Senior Resident Superior Court Judge



STATE OF NORTH CAROLINA
GENERAL COURT OF JUSTICE
JUDICIAL DISTRICT 3A
TELEPHONE (252) 695-7260
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IN CHAMBERS

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MEMORANDUM

TO: Cherie Beasley, Chief Justice
McKinley Wooten, Director of AOC

FROM:  Marvin K. Blount III, Sr. Resident Superior Court Judge and COVID-19 Coordinator
G. Galen Braddy, Chief District Court Judge

DATE: September 30, 2020

RE: Resumption of Jury Trials During the COVID-19 Pandemic in Judicial District 3A

This plan is submitted in accordance with Emergency Directive 22 in Chief Justice's Beasley's order dated, July 16, 2020, August 15, 2020, and September 15, 2020.

This plan details the minimum requirements for the safe resumption of civil and criminal jury trials in the Three-A Judicial District civil and criminal superior courts. It is specifically designed to address public health concerns and provide guidance to safely operate during the COVID-19 State of Emergency in North Carolina.

It was developed after a review of all the Chief Justice's Emergency Directives pertaining to COVID-19 and is in compliance with each of her emergency orders and in consultation with the Chief District Court Judge, the Public Defender, the District Attorney, the Clerk of Court, members of the local bar, and the Pitt County Health Director.

OVERVIEW

Jury service is one of the cornerstones of our system of justice, expressly provided for in the U.S. Constitution and North Carolina Constitution. The Court has an obligation to uphold the constitutional rights of the citizens of this state, which includes the right to a jury trial. We are making every effort to take the necessary steps to keep citizen jurors safe and provide meaningful access to the courts.

Because of space limitations necessitated by social distancing requirements and staff availability, the Three-A Judicial District will operate only two superior courtrooms upon the resumption of jury trials: our historical courtroom Superior Courtroom 01 (SC01) and Superior Courtroom 03 (SC03).

Initially, only one of these two courtrooms (SC01) will operate when jury trials resume.

Before jury trials resume there are minimum public health criteria/preconditions that must be met. The decision to resume jury trials is guided by science, medical advice and the rights of individuals appearing in court to due process and a fair and open adjudicatory process.

Before the first juror is summoned, specific key indicators, derived from Public Health data, must be considered. Low and/or decreasing rates of percent positivity (positive tests as a percent of total tests), hospitalizations due to COVID-19, and reported COVID-19 related deaths are key metrics in deciding to safely resume jury trials. Currently, there are no official established goal levels for these metrics. Fourteen (14) days is often used as an initial timeframe to determine a decreasing or stable trend.

The Pitt County Health Department (PCHD) will continue to monitor these data and trends closely. A prolonged decrease or stability in the rates of percent positivity, hospitalizations due to COVID-19, and reported COVID-19 related deaths are prerequisites to safely resuming jury trials.

The Pitt County Three-A Judicial District will rely upon and abide by the decision of the Director of the Pitt County Health concerning the key indicators and when jury trials may safely resume from a public health perspective. Once it is determined that, from a public health perspective, trials may be safely resumed the following protocols and procedures shall be employed and abided by.

FACE COVERINGS

Pursuant to an Administrative Order issued by the Honorable Marvin K. Blount III on July 1, 2020, upon entering the Pitt County Courthouse, "All persons, including members of the public, attorneys, and courthouse personnel, are required to wear a clean face mask/covering upon entering any Judicial Facility and at all times while within the Pitt County Courthouse and other Judicial Facilities, unless one of the following exceptions apply." (See Attachment A).

JURY MANAGEMENT/SUMMONS

Pitt County will begin the planning and implementation of a local Jury Service Website to provide jurors and the public with key information regarding jury reporting, guidelines and processes. In addition, the website will provide jury orientation materials and jury questionnaires. In the event that a local jury service website (or other technology) is not available, the jurors will be broken into smaller panels and oriented by traditional in-person means.

The following questionnaire will be utilized for deferral request and screening:

COVID-19 SCREENING QUESTIONS

1. Have you been diagnosed with or had close contact (close contact =within 6 feet for 15 minutes or more) with anyone who has been diagnosed with COVID-19 within the last 14 days?
2. Have you experienced any cold or flu-like symptoms in the last 14 days (including fever, cough, chills, sore throat, respiratory illness, loss of smell, loss of taste, nausea, vomiting, diarrhea, difficulty breathing, or new muscle pain/body aches not due to injury or exercise)?
3. Are you over the age of 65?
4. Do you have an underlying medical condition that puts you at a higher risk of developing serious health complications from COVID-19?
5. Have you been directed to isolate or quarantine?
6. Do you live with or provide direct care for a **physically disabled or vulnerable** person?
7. Do you have children at home who require your direct supervision due to school and/or daycare closings? Note: this applies if there is NO ONE else in the household who can provide care during jury service.
8. For any of the reasons listed above, are you requesting that your jury service be deferred?

DO NOT REPORT TO THE COURTHOUSE FOR JURY SERVICE if any of the above apply. Instead, please notify Angie Smith, Jury Clerk immediately by email at pitt.juryclerk@nccourts.org or by phone at 252-695-7276.

The following advisory shall be placed on the Pitt County Jury Service Website “In the continued interest of the health and safety of the community and court personnel, the Pitt County Courthouse is taking the necessary precautions in resuming jury trials during the health crisis that COVID-19 presents by implementing new measures. The wearing of face masks will be mandatory in the courthouse. Enhanced cleaning will take place twice a day throughout the juror seating area. Hand sanitizer and sanitizing wipes will be made readily available throughout the suite, and there will be limitations on the number of jurors reporting to ensure social distancing.”

Jury orientation shall be done remotely by video. Instructions shall be placed on the Pitt County Jury Service Website, and added to the jury summons, that jurors are to watch the Jury Clerk’s orientation speech and the Administrative Offices of the Courts’ (AOC) Juror Orientation Video prior to arriving at the Courthouse for jury service.

The Jury Clerk’s orientation speech shall be recorded and placed online at the Pitt County Jury Service Website. It shall include a statement that jurors shall be required to wear masks and to socially distance at all times while in the courthouse.

Information shall be added to the Pitt County Jury Service Website informing jurors of the safety precautions that have been taken to protect their health and safety while serving. (i.e. requirement that face coverings be worn, enhanced cleaning, provision of masks, hand sanitizer, spray sanitizer, sanitizing wipes, social distancing, limitations as to the number of persons present, etc.).

Information shall be added to the Pitt County Jury Service Website informing jurors that the wearing of face coverings in the courthouse is mandatory.

NUMBER OF JURORS TO BE SUMMONED

Jurors are summoned approximately four weeks prior to their time of service. Because of space limitations necessitated by social distancing requirements and staff availability, the Three-A Judicial District will initially operate only one Superior Courtroom (SC01). The Jury Clerk will summon enough jurors to compose one Superior Court jury session.

The number of jurors to summon for sessions of court should take into consideration historical response rates, the likelihood of lower response rates due to COVID-19, increased failures to appear, and increased requests for deferrals/excuses.

The panel of jurors will be summoned for arrival at the courthouse on Monday at 1:30 p.m. such that all pre-trial matters can be addressed prior to the jury pool reporting and trials can start at 2:00 p.m.

EXCUSAL, DEFERRAL, AND FAILURE TO APPEAR (FTA) POLICIES

Requests for deferrals and excuses shall be liberally granted taking into account CDC guidance with regard to high risk individuals and the specific circumstances.

Considerations in deciding whether to excuse or defer include, but are not limited to, the age of the individual (65 years of age or older) and, based on CDC guidance, whether the individual, regardless of age, has cancer, chronic kidney disease, COPD (chronic obstructive pulmonary disease), immunocompromised state (weakened immune system) from solid organ transplant, obesity (body mass index [BMI] of 30 or higher), serious heart conditions, such as heart failure, coronary artery disease, or cardiomyopathies, sickle cell disease or Type 2 diabetes mellitus and where the individual who lives with or is a caregiver to a person in the high-risk category. Jurors over the age of 65 with preexisting medical conditions can be excused for COVID-19 related reasons without a doctor's note, subject to the Jury Clerk's discretion. Jurors under the age of 65 will be required to provide a doctor's note to be excused from jury service if they have a preexisting medical condition that prevents their service.

These same considerations shall be given to individuals who are at heightened risk of contracting COVID-19 and transmitting it to others, such as essential workers in the health or service industry and people who have recently traveled.

During the pendency of these rules, when a juror fails to appear in response to a jury service summons, rather than issue a show cause order, the Jury Clerks will note the juror's record and will reschedule them to a future date in which there will be jury trials scheduled up to two times. A new summons will be issued for each rescheduled date.

A show cause order will issue only after a third failure to appear and the summoned juror has not contacted the Jury Clerks informing them of their reason for not appearing.

JURY ASSEMBLY ROOM

When checking in summoned jurors, Jury Clerks shall inquire of all jurors, using a standardized form/checklist, whether any one of them have, within the past 14 days, had close contact with someone that you know had COVID-19 or had symptoms of COVID-19 (close contact = within 6 feet for 15 minutes or more), are waiting for test results from a COVID-19 test, have tested positive for COVID-19 or been told to self-quarantine or self-isolate for any reason, or have had any of the following symptoms during the past 10 days: Fever (100.4°F or greater), feeling feverish or chills, shortness of breath or difficulty breathing, cough, sore throat, new loss of taste or smell, new muscle pain/body aches not due to injury or exercise), nausea/vomiting or diarrhea.

If a potential juror answers affirmatively to any of these questions, they shall be immediately separated from the other members of the jury pool. The Jury Clerk shall get their name and

contact, immediately send them home and notify the COVID-19 Coordinator who shall report to the Pitt County Health Department requesting guidance/instructions as to next steps.

Jury Clerks will confirm that summoned jurors have viewed both the Jury Clerk's orientation speech and the video prepared by the Administrative Offices of the Courts (AOC) prior to their arrival.

Based upon a walkthrough with the Pitt County Health Department and applicable social distancing guidelines, there are 16 seats available for jurors in the Jury assembly room (and there are 30 seats available for jurors in the gallery of Superior Courtroom SC01). All seats designated for jurors will be marked and numbered in both the jury assembly room and Superior Courtrooms SC01/SC03.

Should additional space be required for jury assembly purposes, Superior Courtroom 02 (SC02) will be used. Seating in the overflow courtroom SC02 shall be marked with tape to assure social distancing.

Building maintenance shall sanitize and clean the jury assembly room twice a day; between 12:30 p.m. and 2:00 p.m. each day and again each evening, using a disinfectant that meets CDC recommendations. All common surfaces (i.e., tables, railings, doorknobs and handles, light switches, chairs, and microphones) shall be disinfected.

Masks, hand sanitizer, sanitizing wipes, sanitizing spray solution and paper towels shall be provided in the Jury Assembly Room and Courtrooms utilized.

JURY ORIENTATION

Jury Orientation includes three sections. The first section begins with the Jury Clerk's orientation speech that takes about 20 minutes. Next, the 15-minute video prepared by the Administrative Offices of the Courts (AOC) is played for the jurors to educate them about the jury selection process. Jurors are then sworn-in by the Clerk of Court. The entire orientation process takes about 35 to 45 minutes.

The Jury Clerk's orientation speech shall be videotaped and placed on the Pitt County Jury Service Website.

The Administrative Offices of the Courts' (AOC) Juror Orientation Video is located on the Pitt County Jury Service website.

Instructions shall be added to the Pitt County Jury Service Website directing persons who receive a summons to watch both the Jury Clerk's orientation speech and the AOC Juror Orientation Video prior to their arrival at the courthouse.

Jurors will be sworn in by the Clerk in the courtroom to which they are assigned.

Jurors shall be asked to initially report on Monday at 1:30 p.m. and otherwise at the time they will be needed in court as determined by the Jury Clerk.

Each potential juror shall be provided two (2) separate questionnaires to be completed prior to their arrival at the courthouse. The first questionnaire entitled COVID 19 QUESTIONNAIRE (See Attachment B), includes telephone number(s) and email address(es) and health questions for deferral and screening by the court. The instructions shall include symptoms of COVID-19. They shall instruct the juror that if they exhibit symptoms, have tested positive for COVID-19, have had contact with a person who has been exposed to or tested positive for COVID-19 within the previous fourteen (14) days, they should notify the Jury Clerk(s) and not report for jury service until they have been told to appear.

The second questionnaire entitled PITT COUNTY JUROR QUESTIONNAIRE (See Attachment C) includes biographical, employment, education, family and general information along with information regarding prior experience with the court and/or criminal justice system. The Jury Questionnaire should be completed prior to arrival at the Courthouse.

COURTROOMS

Because of space limitations necessitated by social distancing requirements and staff availability, the Three-A Judicial District will operate only two superior courtrooms upon the resumption of jury trials: our historical courtroom Superior Court 01 (SC01, See Attachment D) and Superior Courtroom 03 (SC03, See Attachment E).

Only one Superior Courtroom (SC01) initially will operate upon the resumption of jury trials. Jury selection will be conducted in either Superior Courtrooms SC01 (or SC03). But initially, only in Superior Courtroom SC01.

Courtroom SC01 has a total capacity (with social distancing) of 57 people. (47 in the main area, 10 in the balcony area). Courtroom SC03 has a total capacity of 30 people.

Once selected in a trial, Jurors will be seated in a combination of numbered seating in the jury box, gallery and individual chairs. Juror seats in the gallery shall be numbered one (1) through thirteen (13).

Courtroom furniture (e.g. counsel tables, witness stand, court reporter station) will be positioned consistent with the jury being in the courtroom gallery.

During trials in Courtrooms SC01 and SC03, Jurors in SC01 shall use Superior Courtroom 02 for deliberations and breaks. SC02 has a maximum capacity of 18 people. (Attachment F).

The capacity limits shall be posted outside and inside each courtroom and it is the responsibility of the deputy and the presiding judge to enforce them.

The presiding judge shall require everyone in the courtroom to wear a face mask unless they have a medical reason for not doing so. In his/her discretion the presiding judge may allow a juror, witness, attorney or other party speaking to remove their facemask as necessary for the purpose of speaking, being heard, understood or to assess their credibility.

The presiding judge and courtroom deputy/deputies shall be responsible for enforcing social distancing requirements and maximum occupancy limits.

Masks, hand sanitizer, sanitizing wipes, sanitizing spray solution and paper towels shall be provided on the counsel tables, witness stand, the clerk's station, the court reporters table, bench and jury deliberation room.

The jury shall be informed that if they need masks, hand sanitizer, sanitizing wipes, sanitizing spray solution and paper towels while in the jury box they need only ask for it.

When utilized, Pitt County Buildings and Maintenance shall sanitize and clean Courtroom SC01, SC02, SC03 twice a day; between 12:30 p.m. and 2:00 p.m. each day and again each evening, using a disinfectant that meets CDC recommendations. All common surfaces (i.e., tables, plexiglass shields, railings, doorknobs and handles, light switches, chairs, and microphones) in the courtrooms shall be disinfected.

In both Superior Courtrooms SC01 and SC03, plexiglass shields/barriers shall be placed at the judge's bench, at the clerk's desk, at the witness stand, between the judge and witness, between the judge and clerk, at each counsel table and around juror seats, where feasible.

JURY SELECTION/VOIR DIRE

Prior to commencement of trials, and after hearing any excuses for jury service, the Jury Clerk will divide the prospective jurors into the following Panels:

- Panel A – 30 jurors
- Panel B – 15 jurors
- Panel C – 15 jurors
- Panel D - 15 jurors

Panel A will be directed to Superior Courtroom SC01 for the first trial. Panels B, C and D will be placed on standby and shall be directed on when to report to the Courthouse. All pretrial matters shall be addressed prior to the jurors reporting to the Courthouse at a designated time. Jurors shall be oriented in compliance with N.C.G.S. § 15A-1213.

When a case is called for trial, Panel A will already be seated in designated seats in the gallery of Courtroom SC01. The Court will give preliminary instructions to prospective jurors of Panel A. Because of space and social distancing limitations, the Courtroom Clerk will call five (5)

prospective jurors from the Panel rather than twelve (12). Once the first five (5) jurors are passed by both sides and seated, those jurors will be directed to the Jury Assembly room (or dismissed with instructions on when to report back). Then the court will repeat the same process until twelve jurors and alternate(s) are seated.

Once selected and empaneled, Jurors will be seated in a combination of numbered seating in the jury box, gallery and individual chairs. Juror seats shall be numbered one (1) through thirteen (13).

Upon exhaustion of the jurors in Panel A or the need for additional jurors, Panel B, C and D will be notified on when to report to the Courthouse.

The presiding judge and counsel should consider selecting more alternate jurors than normal in the event a juror(s) must self-quarantine due to close contact with a positive COVID-19 individual outside the courtroom.

Prior to calling for a jury the presiding judge shall inquire of counsel in civil cases whether they will stipulate to some lesser number of jurors than 12.

TRIAL

To the extent allowed by this memorandum, the presiding trial judge can exercise his/her discretion in conducting jury trials during the COVID-19 pandemic consistent with health and safety protocols. Because exposure risk increases with the amount of time spent in the courtroom, trials should be kept as short as possible and every opportunity to disperse people taken. (e.g. multiple breaks)

The presiding judge shall instruct; daily; all persons in the courtroom (i.e. jury, bailiffs, attorneys, litigants, clerk and court reporter) that if they become sick or develops symptoms of COVID-19, test positive for COVID-19 or have close contact with someone who has tested positive for COVID-19 they should notify the court immediately.

The presiding judge shall consider minimizing the number and duration of bench conferences and should consider holding them in a location outside the courtroom where social distancing requirements can be observed (e.g. an adjacent jury deliberation room).

Disposable stickers / name tags shall be issued to jurors in lieu of reusable plastic juror badges. The disposable nametags shall be disposed of daily and new ones issued. The Trial Court Coordinator shall procure and distribute these to the courtrooms and make the courtroom deputies aware of their required use.

Upon information and belief, the Administrative Offices of the Courts (AOC) may provide clear face masks to the Three-A Judicial District for use in trials. To the extent possible, Clear face masks may be issued to all jurors called into the jury box and to witnesses who testify during

the trial. The court will also explore the opportunity to utilize clear face shields for use during trials.

Witnesses shall be affirmed by raising the right hand rather than having them swear on a religious text.

IF A JUROR REPORTS SYMPTOMS OF COVID-19

If a juror (or other courtroom personnel) reports symptoms of COVID-19, the Court shall immediately separate the juror from the other jurors and confirm their correct contact information, finding out what their symptoms are, how long they have been symptomatic and who they have had contact with. They should be instructed to leave the building immediately, avoiding any close contact with others while exiting and contact their health care professional.

The Court should immediately contact the COVID-19 Coordinator who shall report to the Pitt County Health Department (PCHD) requesting guidance/instructions as to next steps.

IF A JUROR TESTS POSITIVE FOR COVID-19

The Court shall instruct the jurors and all other persons in the courtroom that if they test positive during the trial, they shall notify the court immediately. The Court shall immediately separate them from the others and confirm their correct contact information. They shall be instructed to leave the building immediately, avoiding any close contact with others while exiting and contact their health care professional.

The Court shall immediately contact the COVID-19 Coordinator who shall report to the Pitt County Health Department (PCHD) requesting guidance/instructions as to next steps.

IF A JUROR HAS CONTACT WITH SOMEONE WHO TESTS POSITIVE FOR COVID-19

The Court shall instruct jurors or other individuals in the courtroom that if they are identified as a person who has had close contact (outside of courtroom setting) with someone who has tested positive for COVID-19 and the juror has been instructed to self-quarantine by a health care professional they should report this to the court and follow the recommendation. No additional measures are needed for others involved in the trial unless the individual who is self-quarantining subsequently tests positive and is deemed to have been potentially infectious while in the courtroom. Contact with that individual should be made daily by the Jury Clerk until that determination is made.

If the juror subsequently tests positive, the Jury Clerk shall immediately notify the COVID-19 Coordinator who shall report to the Pitt County Health Department (PCHD) requesting guidance/instructions as to next steps.

EXHIBITS

Both Superior Courtrooms, SC01 and SC02, have limited technology available to use to present evidence to jurors.

All documents, if published to the jury, shall be published by electronic means if possible (i.e. projector, computer screen).

If electronic publication is not possible, counsel shall have prepared enough copies of the document/exhibit so that opposing counsel, each member of the jury, the court and the court reporter have a copy.

Should counsel seek to publish any exhibit, other than a document, it should be published using an overhead projector, if one is available in the courtroom, or by placing on a table in the courtroom and have the jury walk past the table rather than handling the exhibit.

If the court provides pencils / pens, to jurors they should be properly cleaned using sanitizing wipes prior to a juror's use and placed in zip-lock bags. The court should instruct the jury that at each break, lunch and the end of the day they are to place their notebook and pen in the zip-lock bag for storage to prevent cross contamination.

JURY DELIBERATION ROOM/SPACES

There are no jury deliberation rooms in the Pitt County Courthouse large enough to allow for six (6) feet of social distancing between 12-13 jurors.

Jurors in both Superior Courtrooms SC01 or SC03 shall use Superior Courtroom SC02 (maximum capacity of 18 people) for deliberations and breaks. Seating will be marked for jurors to use in SC02, considering social distancing requirements.

Jurors deliberating in SC02 shall use the restrooms located in the secure hallway next to the jury deliberation room.

A cardinal principle of jury deliberations is that they shall remain private and secret to protect deliberations from improper influence. As such, all exterior windows in Courtroom SC02 will be covered during jury deliberations.

The presiding judge may remind jurors (and the foreperson) prior to deliberation that they may wish to speak louder than usual due to mask and social distancing.

The presiding judge shall remind jurors that they should maintain appropriate social distance, not remove their masks, and return to their same seats after breaks throughout jury deliberation.

Masks, hand sanitizer, sanitizing wipes, sanitizing spray solution and paper towels shall be provided in the jury deliberation rooms.

Building maintenance shall sanitize and clean the Jury Deliberation Spaces/Superior Courtroom SC02 and their associated restrooms twice a day when in session; between 12:30 p.m. and 2:00 p.m. each day and again each evening, using a disinfectant that meets CDC recommendations. All common surfaces (i.e., tables, railings, doorknobs and handles, light switches, chairs, microphones and plexiglass shields) in the courtrooms shall be disinfected.

QUESTIONNAIRES

Each potential juror will complete a COVID-19 QUESTIONNAIRE. (See Attachment B). Prospective jurors will also complete our local general information 2-page PITT COUNTY JURY QUESTIONNAIRE to aid in jury selection. (See Attachment C).

This plan has been reviewed and approved by all whom were required to do so.

20 R 441

Attachment
A

20-24

NORTH CAROLINA
PITT COUNTY

IN THE GENERAL COURT OF JUSTICE
SUPERIOR AND DISTRICT COURT DIVISIONS

20 JUL -2 A 10:44

IN RE:

PITT CO., D.S.C.
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ADMINISTRATION ORDER REGARDING
MASKS IN COURTHOUSE FACILITIES IN
RESPONSE TO COVID-19 PANDEMIC

The undersigned Senior Resident Superior Court Judge for Judicial District 3A enters this Administrative Order in response to coronavirus COVID-19 pandemic.

IT APPEARING TO THE COURT that on March 10, 2020, a state of emergency was declared in response to the COVID-19 pandemic.

AND IT FURTHER APPEARING TO THE COURT that Article 1, Section 18 of the North Carolina Constitution provides: "Court shall be open. All courts shall be open; every person for an injury done him in his lands, goods, person, or 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 on June 1, 2020, the Courts of North Carolina resumed regular functions in accordance with the May 21, 2020, Order of the North Carolina Chief Justice provided that our court system continue to administer justice while protecting the health and safety of court officials, court personnel and the public.

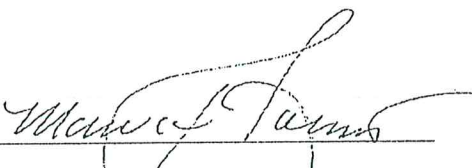
NOW, THEREFORE, IT IS ORDERED that:

1. All persons, including members of the public, attorneys and courthouse personnel, are required to wear a clean face mask/covering upon entering any Judicial Facility and at all times while within the Pitt County Courthouse and other Judicial Facilities, unless one of the following exceptions apply.
2. Face coverings are not required:
 - a. For people whose religious beliefs prevent them from wearing a face covering;
 - b. For those who cannot wear a face covering due to a medical or behavioral condition;
 - c. While dining or eating or consuming food or beverage;
 - d. In courthouse offices or workstations provided that six feet social distancing can be maintained;

- e. When complying with directions of law enforcement officers; or
 - f. While conducting official business where the wearing of a face covering impedes communications, or is not feasible, or as directed by the presiding judge or judicial official;
2. A "face covering" is defined as one recognized by the Center for Disease Control as helpful in reducing the transmission of COVID-19 in public settings. Medical or single use medical-type face masks are appropriate. If fabric, the face covering should:
- a. fit snugly but comfortably against the side of the face
 - b. be secured with ties or ear loops
 - c. include multiple layers of fabric
 - d. allow for breathing without restriction
 - e. be able to be laundered and machine dried without damage or change to shape
4. Deputy sheriff / law enforcement personnel and security personnel are authorized to require the removal of a face covering worn by any person if, in their discretion, the face covering poses a security concern, impedes identification, or otherwise interferes with the administration of justice within Judicial Facilities.
5. Deputy sheriff / law enforcement personnel and security personnel shall deny entry into the Pitt County Courthouse or remove from Courthouse, any person who does not comply with the Requirements of this Masks / Face Coverings Policy.

This Administrative Order supersedes previous Administrative Orders which are no longer in effect. This Administrative Order shall be posted outside of each Court courtroom and shall expire when the declared state of emergency expires or upon further Order of the Court.

This the 1st day of July, 2020.


Marvin K. Blount
Senior Resident Superior Court Judge

COVID-19 QUESTIONNAIRE

Your participation is an important part of the precautionary measures necessary to protect you and others in the courthouse. Please answer truthfully to the following questions:

1. Please provide your name.
2. Please provide your email address.
3. Please provide a phone number, preferably a cellphone.
4. Have you been diagnosed with or had close contact (close contact =within 6 feet for 15 minutes or more) with anyone who has been diagnosed with COVID-19 within the last 14 days?
5. Have you experienced any cold or flu-like symptoms in the last 14 days (including fever, cough, chills, sore throat, respiratory illness, loss of smell, loss of taste, nausea, vomiting, diarrhea, difficulty breathing, or new muscle pain/body aches not due to injury or exercise)?
6. Are you over the age of 65?
7. Do you have an underlying medical condition that puts you at a higher risk of developing serious health complications from COVID-19?
8. Have you been directed to isolate or quarantine within the last thirty (30) days?
9. Do you live with or provide direct care for a **physically disabled or vulnerable** person?
10. Do you have children at home who you are primarily responsible for their schooling and/or care?
11. For any of the reasons listed above, are you requesting that your jury service be deferred?

Date: _____

Signature: _____

If you have any questions, please contact the Jury Clerk at 252.695.7276 (Angie Smith)

Please be advised that the information submitted in this questionnaire is provided solely for the purpose of jury service and deferral. Any information will be kept confidential and will be placed under seal by the Court.

PITT COUNTY JUROR QUESTIONNAIRE

(Please print and make sure your answers are legible)

1. Full Name: _____
(Last) (First) (Middle) (Maiden)
2. Date of Birth: _____ Age: _____ Sex: _____ Race: _____
3. Area of county where you currently live (ex. Winterville, Bethel): _____
 - a. How long have you lived at your current address? _____
 - b. How long have you lived in Pitt County? _____
4. Are you: Employed/ Unemployed/ Retired/ Homemaker/ Student/ Other
If you are employed or retired:
 - a. What type of work do/did you do? _____
 - b. Do/did you have any supervisory responsibilities? _____
 - c. How many people do/did you supervise? _____
5. What is the single highest grade of high school or college you have completed?
_____ College Name (if applicable): _____
major/minor _____
6. Marital status: single/ married/ divorced/ separated/ widowed/ Other
7. Do you have children? Yes No. If yes, please continue:
Number of boys: _____ ages: _____ School Yr./Employment: _____
Number of girls: _____ ages: _____ School Yr./Employment: _____
8. If presently married or sharing a household with someone (other than a child), is he/she:
 Employed/ Unemployed/ Student/ Retired/ Homemaker/ Other
If employed:
 - a. What type of work does/did he/she do? _____
 - b. What does he/she do? _____
 - c. How long has he/she worked there? _____
 - d. What is the highest grade of high school or college he/she has completed? _____
 - e. College Name (if applicable): _____ major/minor _____
9. Have you or any close friends/relatives been employed in law enforcement? Yes No
If yes, what agency and position? _____
10. Do you know anyone who works in the Pitt County District Attorney's Office? Yes No
If yes, who and how do you know them? _____
11. Have you ever been convicted of a felony? Yes No. If yes,
When? _____ Where? _____
 - a. Offense? _____
12. Have you ever been involved in any jury trial? Yes No
 - a. If yes, what type of trial? _____
 - b. What was your involvement? _____

13. Have you or any member of your family been charged with a crime other than a traffic ticket?
 Yes No. If yes:
a. When? _____
b. Where? _____
c. Offense? _____

14. Have you ever been sued or called as a witness in a civil case? Yes No

15. Have you ever served on a jury in court? _____
a. If so, when and where was the most recent time? _____
b. Was it a civil or a criminal case? _____
c. Were you the foreperson of any jury on which you served? _____
d. Was the jury able to reach a verdict? Yes No

16. Have you or any member of your family been the victim of a crime? Yes No. If yes:
a. How are you related to the victim? _____
b. What was the crime? _____
c. Was anyone arrested, charged, or convicted? _____

17. [Optional] Are you a member of a church, temple, or other religious organization? Yes No
If yes, what is its name and location? _____

18. [Optional] How often do you participate in your Church's worship, civic, or social activities?
 Frequently Sometimes A little not at all

19. [Optional] Do you hold an office or offices in your church? Yes/ No
a. If yes, what office(s) do you hold? _____

20. Do you read a newspaper? Almost every day once or twice a week not at all

21. What are your primary sources for news?

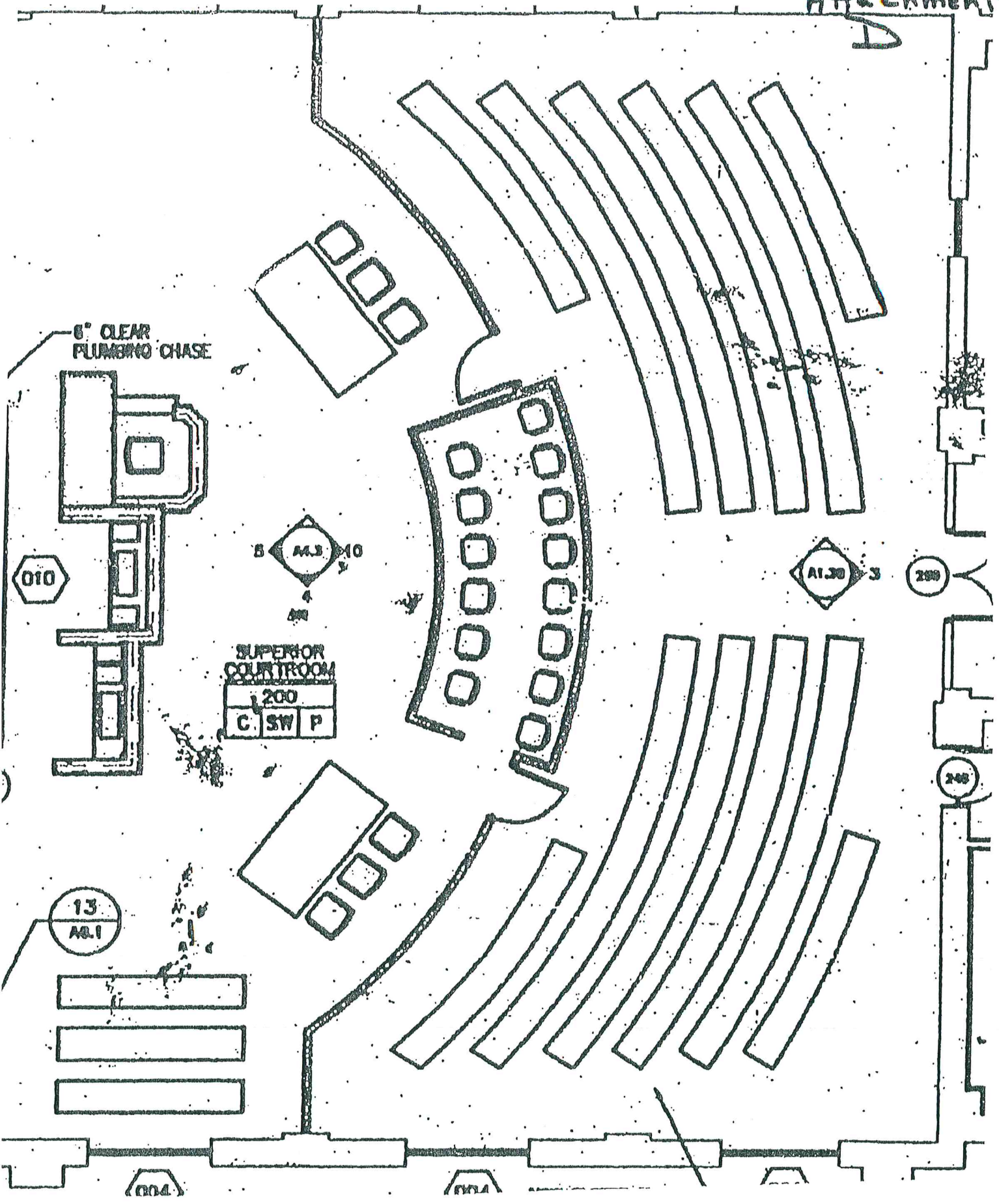
22. What are your favorite:
a. Books or magazines? _____
b. Television shows? _____
c. Web Sites? _____

23. Do you belong to any civic, social or business clubs or organizations? Yes No
a. If yes list their names: _____
b. List any offices you hold or have previously held: _____

24. Have you ever served in the armed forces? Yes No
a. If yes, list branch and highest rank: _____
b. Dates and duties: _____

Print Your Full Name: _____

Date: _____



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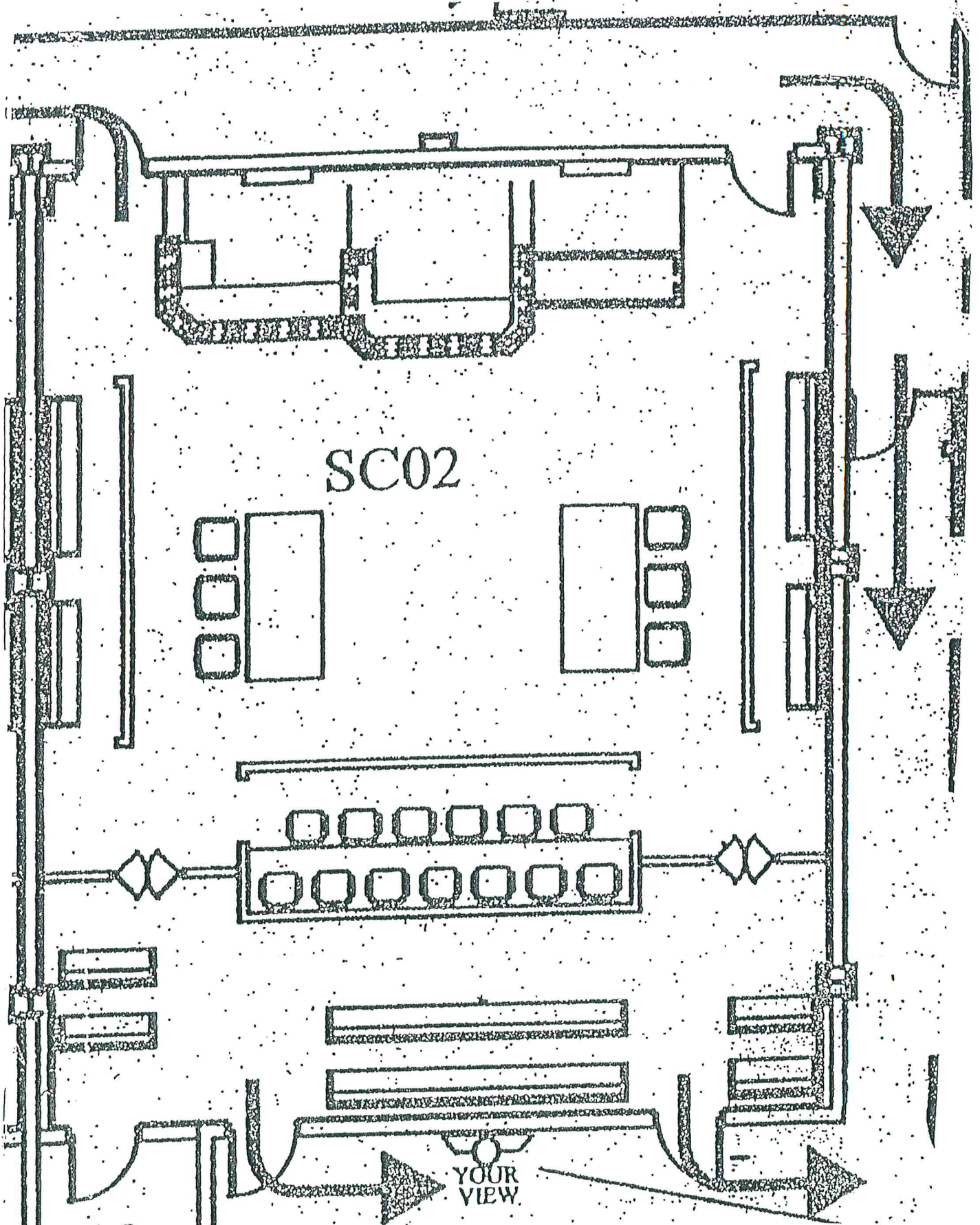
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