

FILED
IN DISTRICT COURT
FEB 25 2021

OKMULGEE COUNTY, OKLAHOMA
CHARLY CRINER, Court Clerk
Deputy

**IN THE DISTRICT COURT OF OKMULGEE COUNTY
STATE OF OKLAHOMA**

FIFTH TEMPORARY ADMINISTRATIVE ORDER NO. AO-2021-4

Okmulgee County District Judges met February 22, 2021 to consider the status of the continuation or modification of the previously-entered Administrative Orders regarding COVID-19 precautions and court dockets.

The judges considered the factors set forth by the Oklahoma Supreme Court and the Oklahoma Court of Criminal Appeals in Paragraph 3 of the latest Supreme Court Administrative Directive (SCAD) for determining the steps necessary to protect the health and safety of all participants in any court proceedings. These factors include the number of courthouse personnel who are currently under treatment and/or quarantined due to COVID-19, hospitalizations, the community rate of COVID-19 infections, and any directives from state and county health departments. The judges determined the following:

1. **EXPIRATION OF PREVIOUS COVID RELATED ADMINISTRATIVE ORDERS:** Previous administrative orders related to COVID-19 shall expire at the end of the day on February 28, 2021. Beginning March 1, 2021, pre-pandemic docketing and case management shall be implemented with each judge setting the procedures for her dockets.
2. **CONTINUATION OF VIDEO CONFERENCING:** The judges encourage the continued use of video conferencing in cases where appropriate. It will be the responsibility of the attorneys and litigants to contact the judge's staff to determine if video conferencing is available or if in-person proceedings are required.
3. **RULES REGARDING IN-PERSON PROCEEDINGS:** For all in-person proceedings, only the parties and their attorneys will be allowed into the courthouse. Any witnesses must remain outside the building and available to be called when testimony is necessary. The witness must leave the building after testifying. Masks and social distancing are required in the hallways and the courtrooms.
4. **INDIVIDUAL JUDGES' DOCKETS:**

Judge Ramirez –

Deprived Docket-- will continue to be held via BlueJeans video conferencing, unless specifically Ordered to appear in person. Masks and social distancing will be required.

Child Support Docket—Tuesday morning dockets will be held in person in Courtroom 1. Video conferencing will only be allowed by special permission of the judge. Access to the courtroom will be limited to the attorneys and litigants.

Civil Docket—will continue to be held via BlueJeans video conferencing. Contested issues and those matters necessitating a record shall be held in person with at least 24-hour notice to the judge. Masks and social distancing will be required.

District Court Criminal Docket—will be held in person in Courtroom 1. Video conferencing will be utilized for in custody defendants. Only defendants and attorneys will be allowed in the courtroom

Judge Pickering –

Tuesday and Wednesday morning dockets will continue to be held via BlueJeans video conferencing. Judge Pickering will be available to handle emergencies by BlueJeans or, if necessary, in person.

Judge Reheard –

Small Claims – Monday morning dockets will be held in Courtroom 3. Video conferencing will only be allowed by special permission of the judge. Access to the courtroom will be limited during the docket with litigants remaining in the hall or outside the building until their case is called

Preliminary Hearings – Preliminary hearings will be set on a staggered time-specific schedule and will be held in Courtroom 2. Only the attorneys and out of custody Defendants will be allowed in the courtroom. Video conferencing will be utilized for in-custody Defendants.

Preliminary Hearing Conference, Revocation, McGirt Dockets, Initial Appearances— Attorneys are encouraged to utilize video conferencing for these dockets. Defendants who have not retained an attorney or had one appointed to represent them must appear in person in Courtroom 3.

Misdemeanor Disposition Dockets – Attorneys are encouraged to utilize video conferencing. Pleas will be accepted via video with the appropriate paperwork submitted prior to the docket. Unrepresented Defendants must appear in person in Courtroom 3.

Protective Orders – All Protective Order hearings will be in-person in Courtroom 3. Law Enforcement issued Protective Orders will be limited to those which need to be addressed after regular business hours and after consultation with Judge Reheard.

Domestic Dockets – Wednesday afternoon Domestic Dockets will continue to be held via video conferencing. Matters which need evidentiary

hearings will be specially set for in-person hearings on a staggered schedule.

5. **MISCELLANEOUS:** The Court continues to encourage the use of jurisdictional affidavits in uncontested divorce decrees and the submission of matters based upon filed briefs where appropriate.

6. **COURT CLERK'S OFFICE:** Beginning March 1, 2021, the Court Clerk's office will be open to the public and pre-pandemic services and procedures will be utilized. Only two (2) people may be in the Court Clerk's office at a time to allow for proper social distancing. Masks are required.

7. **JUDGES' CONTACT INFORMATION:**

- a. Judge Ramirez's Bailiff Allison Harding -- 918-756-0672 or allison.harding@oscn.net
- b. Judge Pickering's Bailiff Carla Creason -- 918-756-0674 or carla.creason@oscn.net
- c. Judge Reheard's Bailiff Steve Trammell -- 918-756-0672 or steve.trammell@oscn.net

IT IS SO ORDERED.

DATED THIS 24th DAY OF FEBRUARY 2021.


PANDEE RAMIREZ
JUDGE OF THE DISTRICT COURT