

**IN THE UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT
FOR THE DISTRICT OF COLORADO**

**COURT OPERATIONS DURING
THE COVID-19 PANDEMIC -
GRAND JUNCTION AND
COLORADO SPRINGS**

**DISTRICT COURT GENERAL ORDER
2020-11**

WHEREAS, the COVID-19 outbreak remains a national public health emergency, the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (“CDC”), the Colorado Department of Public Health and Environment, and the Denver Department of Public Health and Environment continue to advise taking measures to slow the spread of the disease and precautions to reduce the possibility of exposure to the virus;

WHEREAS, this Court continues to evaluate its response to the spread of COVID-19 and recognizes the need to assist in the preservation of public safety and health while effectively administering justice during the COVID-19 pandemic;

WHEREAS, federal, state, and local health agencies continue to recommend that organizations and institutions comply with applicable recommendations of the CDC and other health agencies, including the wearing of masks or face coverings, physical distancing of individuals, and other protective measures;

WHEREAS, the Wayne Aspinall Federal Building and United States Courthouse in Grand Junction, Colorado houses a historic courtroom and other rooms that are insufficient in size and cannot be configured to meet social distancing requirements for certain types of court proceedings;

WHEREAS, the United States courtroom in Colorado Springs, Colorado is insufficient in size and cannot be configured to meet social distancing requirements for certain types of court proceedings;

It is hereby ORDERED that, effective August 3, 2020 and until further order of this Court:

- 1) No civil or criminal trial requiring a jury of 10 or more jurors (including alternate jurors) shall be held in the Wayne Aspinall Courthouse. Parties may request that the presiding judge determine whether a non-jury trial or trial to a jury of less than 10 may safely proceed in the Courthouse. If so, such trials may proceed in accordance with social distancing and other appropriate measures to ensure the safety of all participants.
- 2) The grand jury for Jury Division 3 shall not be convened until further order of the Court.
- 3) No civil or criminal trial requiring a jury of 10 or more jurors (including alternate jurors) shall be held in the Court’s Colorado Springs courtroom. Parties may request

that the presiding judge determine whether a non-jury trial or trial to a jury of less than 10 may safely proceed in the courtroom. If so, such trials may proceed in accordance with social distancing and other appropriate measures to ensure the safety of all participants.

Dated at Denver, Colorado this 2nd day of July, 2020.

BY THE COURT

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Philip A. Brimmer", written in a cursive style.

PHILIP A. BRIMMER
Chief United States District Judge