

**IN THE TRIAL COURTS FOR THE STATE OF ALASKA  
FIRST JUDICIAL DISTRICT**

**In the Matter of:**

**Prince of Wales Trial**

**First Judicial District.**

**PRESIDING JUDGE ADMINISTRATIVE ORDER 21-05  
RE: PRINCE OF WALES ISLAND**

On March 1, 2021, Chief Justice Order No. 8242 allowed misdemeanor jury trials to resume on April 19, 2021. The order authorizes the presiding judge of each district to limit or suspend jury trials for any location if the average daily case rate over 14 days as reported by the Alaska Department of Health and Social Services rose above 20-30 cases per 100,000 population or if the local risk level is otherwise seriously elevated.<sup>1</sup>

The current situation on Prince of Wales Island necessitates suspending misdemeanor jury trials at this time. The most recent update from the Department of Health and Social Services on Friday, April 23, 2021 shows an average case rate of 8.2 (per 100,000) over the last 14 days and 16.4 (per 100,000) over the last 7 days. However, there have been 14 cases reported in the community since the evening of April 23, 2021. Due to the fact that the population of Prince of Wales is about 5,600, a cluster of 14 recent cases would probably cause the case rate per 100,000 to spike in the hundreds, well above the 20-30 protective threshold. Additionally, the Prince of Wales Island school district is closing all in-person instruction for the week beginning April 26, 2021. This may negatively impact juror availability.

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<sup>1</sup> See also Chief Justice Order No. 8259 dated April 6, 2021.

Prince of Wales trials are therefore suspended for two weeks starting Monday, April 26, 2021. The necessity of continuing the suspension beyond May 7, 2021 will be reviewed on Monday, May 3, 2021.

**IT IS SO ORDERED.**

Dated at Juneau, Alaska on April 26, 2021.

  
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Amy Mead  
Presiding Judge  
First Judicial District



Distribution: Chief Justice Joel Bolger; Stacey Marz, Administrative Director; First District Judges; First District Magistrates; First District Clerks of Court; James Kwon, ACA; Clayton Jones, Rural Court Training Assistant; SBA; JBA; KBA.