

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

In the Matter of:

Prince of Wales Island Trials

First Judicial District.

**PRESIDING JUDGE ADMINISTRATIVE ORDER 21-08
RE: PRINCE OF WALES ISLAND**

On April 26, 2021, by Administrative Order 21-05, misdemeanor trials on Prince of Wales Island were suspended given the community's then-rising COVID case rate.¹ While the community appears to be recovering, the situation in Ketchikan warrants continuing the suspension. As of May 12, 2021, Ketchikan's average case rate was 46.0 (per 100,000) over the last 14 days,² and the community risk level has been upgraded to Level 4, recommending extreme mitigation measures. Given that a number of participants in the cases scheduled to proceed to trial next week on Prince of Wales Island would be traveling to the Island from Ketchikan, extending the suspension is warranted.

Misdemeanor trials on Prince of Wales Island will remain suspended through May 21, 2021. Whether it is necessary to continue the suspension beyond May 21, 2021 will be

¹ See also Administrative Order 21-06 (extending the suspension of trials through May 14, 2021). As explained in that order: 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. See also Special Order of the Chief Justice No. 8259.

² As of May 12, 2021, the average case rate over the last seven days was 63.7 (per 100,000).

reviewed the week of May 17, 2021.

Dated at Juneau, Alaska on May 13, 2021.



Amy Mead
Presiding Judge
First Judicial District



Distribution: Chief Justice Joel Bolger; Stacey Marz, Administrative Director; Lesa Robertson, Executive Administrator; First District Judges; First District Magistrates; First District Clerks of Court; James Kwon, ACA; Clayton Jones, Rural Court Assistant; Juneau Bar Association; Sitka Bar Association; Ketchikan Bar Association.