

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

**In the Matter of:**

**The Suspension of Grand Jury  
Proceedings**

**First Judicial District.**

**PRESIDING JUDGE ADMINISTRATIVE ORDER 21-29**

According to information available through the Alaska Department of Health and Social Services, the grand jury sites in the First Judicial District (Ketchikan, Juneau, Sitka) remain at a “High” COVID-19 alert level. As of October 22, 2021, the number of reported cases per 100,000 persons over the past 7 days remains well above the 100 case threshold identified by Special Order of the Chief Justice 8333 requiring the suspension of jury trials.<sup>1</sup>

	Case Rate (Avg Last 14 Days) <sup>2</sup>	Cases (Last 7 Days)
Ketchikan	60.6	511.8
Sitka	31.8	316.8
Juneau	81.8	506.7

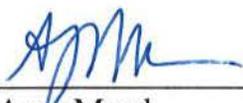
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<sup>1</sup> See also Chief Justice Special Order 8234 and 8331, requiring the presiding judges to consider suspending proceedings in any location where the court location is at a “Substantial” or “High” alert level and the cases per 100,000 over the last 7 days is between 50 – 100.

<sup>2</sup> Under prior orders, the presiding judges were directed to consider suspensions when 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 seriously elevated.

Given the current case rates and alert levels in Ketchikan, Sitka and Juneau, grand jury proceedings will remain suspended in the First Judicial District through November 12, 2021. The time limit for preliminary examination under Alaska Criminal Rule 5(e) is extended through December 10, 2021.<sup>3</sup>

Dated at Juneau, Alaska on October 22, 2021.

  
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Amy Mead  
Presiding Judge  
First Judicial District

Distribution: Chief Justice Daniel Winfree; Stacey Marz, Administrative Director; First District Judges; First District Magistrates; First District Clerks of Court; Lesa Robertson, Executive Administrator; James Kwon, ACA; Clayton Jones, Rural Court Training Assistant; SBA; JBA; KBA; Juneau District Attorney's Office, Public Defender Agency, and Office of Public Advocacy; Sitka District Attorney's Office, Public Defender Agency, and Office of Public Advocacy; Ketchikan District Attorney's Office, Public Defender Agency, and Office of Public Advocacy; CBJ Law Department and Public Defender; Court Rules Attorney; Office of Special Prosecutions.

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<sup>3</sup> Supreme Court Order 1957.