

IN THE TRIAL COURTS FOR THE STATE OF ALASKA
SECOND JUDICIAL DISTRICT

In the Matter of:)
) Presiding Judge
) Administrative Order No. 22-02
Suspending In-Person Grand Jury in)
the Kotzebue Courts)
)
)

ORDER SUSPENDING IN-PERSON GRAND JURY IN KOTZEBUE

The Northwest Arctic Borough has seen a rapid and unprecedented spike in Covid cases over the past several days. Dozens of village travelers have tested positive for Covid and are isolating in Kotzebue before they are able to travel to their home villages. The local schools have experienced a shortage in staff and teachers from the increase in Covid positive cases forcing the school to operate at only half days for students. Multiple high school sports teams have had members test positive for Covid. The Kotzebue Court has also experienced shortages in staff from positive Covid cases and related isolation and quarantine periods during the time grand jury was scheduled.

Pursuant to the authority granted the presiding judge in Special Order of Chief Justice 8331, grand jury proceedings are suspended for Kotzebue Trial Courts January 13 through January 25, 2022. This suspension will be reviewed January 24 to determine if further extension of this order is necessary. Rule 5(e) is tolled through January 31, 2022.

Ordered January 10, 2022 at Kotzebue, Alaska.



PAUL A. ROETMAN
Presiding Judge, Second Judicial District

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