

IN THE SUPERIOR COURT FOR THE STATE OF ALASKA
SECOND JUDICIAL DISTRICT

In Re: Suspension of Misdemeanor Trials
Due to High COVID-19 Case Counts
in the Second Judicial District

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Presiding Judge Administrative Order No. 20-05

**ORDER REGARDING MISDEMEANOR JURY TRIALS
FOR KOTZEBUE, NOME, AND UTQIAGVIK COURTS**

Special Order of the Chief Justice No. 8202, authorizes Presiding Judges to extend the suspension of misdemeanor jury trials when COVID-19 case counts in a community exceed 20-25 per 100,000. The Alaska Department of Health and Social Services issued a COVID-19 case count summary that indicates that the Northwest region, which includes communities within the Second Judicial District, currently has a case count that exceeds 34 cases per 100,000. Within the region, Kotzebue and Utqiagvik have case counts above the threshold set in the Chief Justice's Order while Nome currently has only a single active case.¹

IT IS THEREFORE ORDERED THAT misdemeanor jury trials² in:

1. Kotzebue will REMAIN SUSPENDED until at least December 1, 2020.
2. Utqiagvik will REMAIN SUSPENDED until at least December 1, 2020.
3. Nome WILL RESUME in November. (Including Unalakleet cases that will now be held in Nome.)

The undersigned will continue to monitor COVID-19 case counts for the region and issue an updated order by November 19, 2020 for misdemeanor trials scheduled in December.

IT IS SO ORDERED.

Dated at Kotzebue, Alaska this 2nd day of November 2020.



PAUL A. ROETMAN
Presiding Judge
Second Judicial District

¹ Norton Sound Health Corporation reports there has only been 1 positive case in Nome in the past two weeks.

² All other criminal and civil trials remain suspended until at least January 4, 2021 under Special Order of the Chief Justice No. 8194.