

IN THE TRIAL COURT FOR THE STATE OF ALASKA
FOURTH JUDICIAL DISTRICT AT FAIRBANKS

IN THE MATTER OF:

Suspension of Fairbanks Grand Jury
April 2021

Presiding Judge's Administrative Order
21- 08

**PRESIDING JUDGE'S ORDER SUSPENDING FAIRBANKS GRAND JURY
AND EXTENDING TIME FOR PRELIMINARY HEARING**

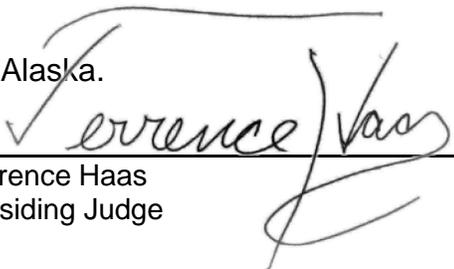
Special Order of the Chief Justice No. 8234 ("CJ Order") authorizes the presiding judge of each judicial district to suspend in-person grand jury "for any district or location when required for public health or to comply with local health mandates." Supreme Court Order 1957(6)(j) authorizes the presiding judge "to extend the time periods in Criminal Rule 5(e)(4) for scheduling preliminary examination."

According to the Alaska Department of Health and Social Services COVID-19 data as of April 29, 2021 the 14 day case rate per 100,000 residents for the Fairbanks region has currently increased to 47.05. The CJ Order encourages the presiding judges to consider suspension of in-person grand jury when cases exceed 20-30 cases per 100,000 "or the local risk level is otherwise seriously elevated."

Given the current and rising rate of transmission in the Fairbanks region it is not consistent with public health to conduct in-person grand jury proceedings at this time. **Grand jury is hereby suspended in Fairbanks through May 31, 2021.** The time limit for preliminary examination under Alaska Criminal Rule 5(e) is extended through May 31, 2021.

IT IS SO ORDERED.

Dated this 30th Day of April, 2021 at Bethel, Alaska.



Terrence Haas
Presiding Judge

Distributed via email:

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