

1/19/2021

Clerk, U.S. District Court
District of Montana
Missoula DivisionIN THE UNITED STATES COURTS
FOR THE DISTRICT OF MONTANAIN RE: PHASED RESUMPTION OF
COURT OPERATIONS DURING
COVID-19 PANDEMIC

ADMINISTRATIVE ORDER 21-2

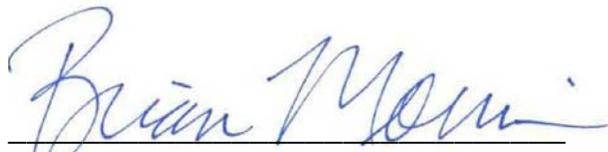
By order dated December 2, 2020, this Court reverted to Phase 2 of its Plan for Phased Resumption of Operations. Upon consideration of the criteria established in the Plan for Phased Resumption of Operations, and in light of the reduction in the rate of COVID-19 infection in Montana over the past seven weeks, the Court now finds that it can safely return to Phase 3 operations.

Accordingly, IT IS HEREBY ORDERED that the Court will continue in Phase 2 until January 25, 2021, at which point it will advance to Phase 3 of its Plan for Phased Resumption of Operations as modified by the following paragraphs:

1. The Billings, Great Falls, and Helena Divisions will advance to Phase 3 effective January 25, 2021. The Butte and Missoula Divisions will advance to Phase 3 after 14 days have passed since the last known courthouse exposure. The last known courthouse exposures were January 12 for Missoula and January 14 for Butte.
2. All grand jury sessions will resume during Phase 3.

3. The Clerk of Court and Chief United States Probation Officer shall continue to require all staff to work remotely to the greatest extent possible and shall direct staff to report to a courthouse only to the extent necessary to perform essential court functions or to support court hearings. The Clerk of Court and Chief United States Probation Officer may continue to support court proceedings remotely by assigning court reporters, courtroom deputies, or probation officers to participate from another courthouse location where practicable.
4. The Court will continue to assess the public health situation during the pendency of this order. The Court may vacate or amend this administrative order as circumstances require.

DATED this 19th day of January, 2021.



Brian Morris, Chief Judge
United States District Court