

THIRTY FOURTH JUDICIAL DISTRICT COURT
PARISH OF ST. BERNARD
STATE OF LOUISIANA

FILED: JUN 01 2021


DEPUTY CLERK

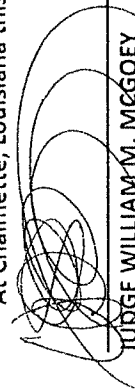
COURT'S ENBANC ORDER OF JUNE 2021 RE: CORONAVIRUS (COVID-19)

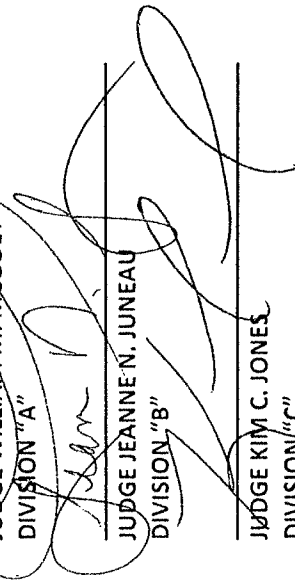
Acting under the authority of Article V, Section 1 of the Constitution of 1974, and the inherent power of this Court, and considering the current state of the Coronavirus Disease 2019 (COVID – 19) in Louisiana, Governor John Bel Edwards' declaration of public health emergencies in Proclamation Number 25 JBE 2020, and extended in Governor Edwards' announcement on February 9, 2021 extending modified Phase 2 measures until March 2, 2021, and recently modified on May 25, 2021, in Proclamation Number 93 JBE 2021 and in consideration of ongoing public health recommendations to reduce the risk of exposure to the virus and slowing the spread of the disease, including the ongoing distribution of vaccine, while balancing the need to protect the constitutional rights and public safety of the citizens of St. Bernard Parish by maintaining access to the 34th Judicial District Court,

IT IS HEREBY ORDERED THAT:

1. In accordance with the order of the Louisiana Supreme Court signed February 11, 2021, Civil and Criminal jury trials shall commence in the 34th Judicial District Court as of April 1, 2021, with in-custody criminal trials taking priority over all other matters. Grand Jury proceedings have and shall continue to be empaneled as necessary. All individuals entering the courthouse may be pre-screened and social distancing shall be encouraged.
2. Following months of sustained improvement in COVID hospitalizations and an increase in the supply and availability of vaccines, Governor John Bel Edwards lifted the statewide mask mandate as of April 28, 2021. Based on the updated mask guidelines, St. Bernard Parish President Guy McInnis also lifted the mandatory mask mandate in St. Bernard Parish. Therefore, all individuals entering the courthouse shall no longer be required to wear a mask, except for those mandates specified by the Governor; however social distancing and masking are recommended by the State of Louisiana, the Parish of St. Bernard and the Center for Disease Control for those most vulnerable and those not fully vaccinated against COVID-19.
3. Criminal matters involving defendants who are incarcerated may continue to proceed via video conference. Incarcerated defendants may appear in person for jury trials, motions, or any other matter upon request of the attorneys or the judge presiding.
4. All civil matters may proceed via video conferencing upon request, unless otherwise ordered by the court. Video conferencing shall not be video or audio recorded as it is not part of the official record. Virtual appearances shall not suspend any deadlines to submit: (a) Memoranda in support or opposition or reply, and/or (b) any other forms or documentation required for the parties' appearance.
5. This Order expressly does not prohibit any court proceeding by telephone, video conferencing, or any other means that do not involve in-person contact. This Order does not affect the court's consideration of matters that can be resolved without in-person proceedings.
6. This Order expressly does not prohibit the presiding Judge from issuing orders regarding the handling of particular matters on their respective dockets.
7. The suspension of "walk throughs" to any Judge in this Court's Order dated May 18, 2020 shall be lifted. This Order expressly does not prohibit the presiding Judge from issuing orders regarding their respective divisions.

At Chalmette, Louisiana this 15th day of June, 2021.


JUDGE WILLIAM M. MCGOE
DIVISION "A"


JUDGE JEANNE N. JUNEAU
DIVISION "B"

JUDGE KIM C. JONES
DIVISION "C"


JUDGE ERIC A. BOPP
DIVISION "D"


JUDGE ERIC A. BOPP
DIVISION "E"

A TRUE COPY
Randy S. Nunez

CLERK OF COURT
PARISH OF ST. BERNARD
STATE OF LOUISIANA

BY 
DEPUTY CLERK