

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF PLATTE COUNTY, MISSOURI
6TH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT, STATE OF MISSOURI

FILED
AUG 05 2021

KIMBERLY K JOHNSON
Clerk of the Circuit Court Platte County, MO

In Re: Updated Covid-19 Court Operations Order

ADMINISTRATIVE ORDER 2021-008

WHEREAS, the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention declared that the outbreak of COVID-19 as a worldwide pandemic, and it has been declared a national and state-wide state of emergency; and

WHEREAS, The President of the United States has declared a specific Variant of Concern, identified as the *Delta Variant*, as a “Pandemic of the Unvaccinated”; and

WHEREAS, the 6th Circuit has abided by recommendations and requirements as set forth by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, the Supreme Court of Missouri, and the Platte County Health Department since March 2020; and

WHEREAS, the Supreme Court requires presiding judges to exercise discretion to determine whether precautionary measures should be utilized through (a) monitoring local health conditions, (b) consulting with local health officials or departments regarding what, if any, precautionary measures are necessary in the community in which the courthouse or court facility is located; and (c) monitoring the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) COVID-19 guidelines and implement any new or amended guidelines as necessary to ensure the safety of those appearing or working in court facilities; and

WHEREAS, it is the 6th Circuit’s objective to continue protect the health and safety of all persons in the Platte County Courthouse, the Platte County Juvenile Services building, and all Municipal Courts in Platte County to continue to employ best practices recommended by the

Centers for Disease Control and local health departments, while balancing the rights of all individuals; and

WHEREAS, Platte County, Missouri has been identified as an area of “high transmission” by the CDC;

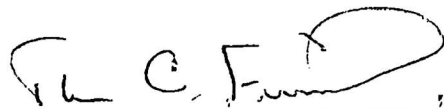
IT IS HEREBY ORDERED that effective at 12:01 a.m. on August 9, 2021, and until modified by a subsequent administrative order, the 6th Circuit shall operate under the following order:

- 1 The presiding judge will continue to exercise discretion to determine whether precautionary measures should be utilized through (a) monitoring local health conditions, (b) consulting with local health officials or departments regarding what, if any, precautionary measures are necessary in the community in which the courthouse or court facility is located; and (c) monitoring the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) COVID-19 guidelines and implement any new or amended guidelines as necessary to ensure the safety of those appearing or working in court facilities.
- 2 All persons allowed entry to the public areas of the Platte County Courthouse and Juvenile Services Building, will be required to wear a face mask or covering that covers their nose and mouth. All persons in the non-public areas of the Platte County Courthouse and Juvenile Services Building shall follow the CDC recommendation of no face covering necessary for persons that have been fully vaccinated; face covering is required of all persons not vaccinated; and all persons to observe a 3 ft. spacing whenever possible.

- 3 In order to preserve and enhance the ability to communicate, all judges are accorded the prerogative to relieve the masking requirement of all lawyers, litigants, or other persons when those persons are speaking in court.
- 4 This circuit will continue to utilize all available technologies including teleconferencing and video conferencing, if and when appropriate, to the extent practical and not prohibited by constitutional or statutory provisions, to reduce the number of individuals in the court facilities.
- 5 Judicial employees will be subject to quarantine based on various circumstances. Any employee who experiences COVID symptoms, or has had contact with a person who has tested positive for COVID-19 should immediately report that circumstance to their supervisor for further instructions.
- 6 All municipal Divisions of the Platte County Circuit Court are governed by this order.
- 7 Administrative Order 2021-006 entered June 14, 2021 is superseded by this order.

THIS ORDER MAY BE AMENDED AS CIRCUMSTANCES REQUIRE.

Done this 5th day of August 2021.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'T. C. Fincham', written over a horizontal line.

Thomas C. Fincham, Presiding Judge



KIMBERLY K JOHNSON
Clerk of the Circuit Court Platte County, MO

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF PLATTE COUNTY, MISSOURI

In re: Extension of Temporary Halt in Residential Evictions to Prevent the Further Spread of COVID-19 – In Response to Federal Government Coronavirus Relief Legislation Extending Centers for Disease Control and Prevention Order originally published on September 4, 2020

Administrative Order No. 2021-009

ORDER

WHEREAS, on September 4, 2020, the CDC and the Department of Health and Human Services (“HHS”) issued an order titled “Temporary Halt in Residential Evictions to Prevent the Further Spread of COVID-19” (“CDC Order”) for publication in the Federal Register; and

WHEREAS, the CDC Order was effective from September 4, 2020 through December 31, 2020; and

WHEREAS, on September 4, 2020, this Court entered Administrative Order 2020-024 pursuant to and consistent with the requirements of the CDC Order. That Administrative Order established protocol and procedures for the Court in compliance with the CDC Order; and

WHEREAS, on December 27, 2020, President Trump signed into law, the Consolidated Appropriations Act, 2021. That Act included provisions related to coronavirus relief and provided in part that the CDC Order would be extended through January 31, 2021; and

WHEREAS, the CDC Order has been extended through June 30, 2021; and

WHEREAS, on or about June 24, 2021, the CDC extended said order through July 31, 2021 and as a result of the extension of the CDC Order, the Court hereby extends Administrative Order 2020-024 to remain in compliance with the CDC Order; and

WHEREAS, pursuant to Section 478.240.2 R.S.Mo. and Section 15 of the Missouri Constitution, the Presiding Judge has general administrative authority over all judicial personnel and court officials in the Circuit as well as administrative authority over dockets of the Court and the administrative and discretionary authority regarding the manner in which any hearings are conducted in the Court.

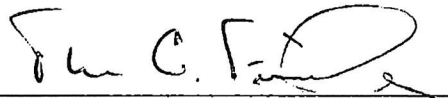
IT IS THEREFORE ORDERED THAT:

1. Administrative Order 2020-024 is hereby extended through October 3, 2021. Therefore, any and all terms, conditions, protocols, procedures and requirements set forth in

Administrative Order 2020-024 shall remain in full force and effect continuously through October 3, 2021.

IT IS SO ORDERED.

Date: 8/5/21


Thomas C. Fincham, Presiding Judge