

**IN RE:           DECLARATION OF MISTRIAL AUTHORITY PURSUANT TO C.M.C.R.  
                    RULE 224(b)(2)**

---

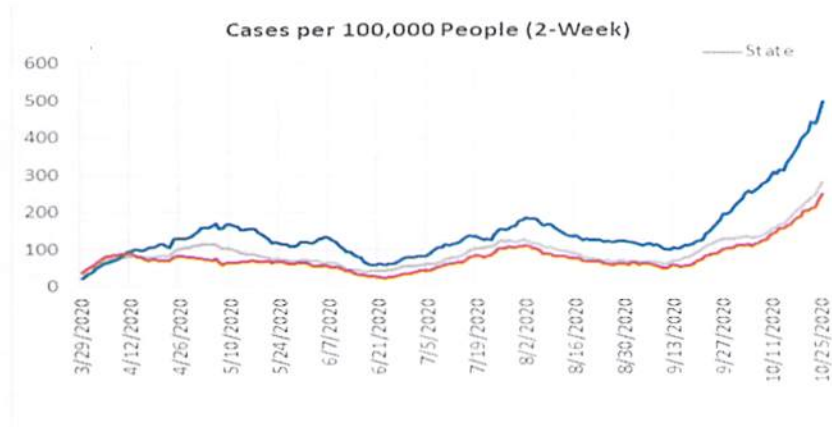
Whereas, this Court is committed to ensuring the rights of individuals are protected and that our staff and community members are safe during a public pandemic.

Whereas, this Court had a consultation with the Tri-County Health Department on September 3, 2020 who provided expert opinions as to how to safely conduct jury trials within the parameters of our courthouse building.

Whereas, this Court worked diligently and thoughtfully to implement the recommended modifications of the Tri-County Health Department.

Whereas, this Court authorized jury trials to commence on October 15, 2020, given the additional precautions implemented to ensure the safety of our staff and community members.

Whereas, our nation, state, county and city have seen an unprecedented spike in positive COVID-19 cases. As of October 28, 2020, the Colorado Department of Public Health and Environment has placed Adams County under Level 3/High Risk restrictions.



Whereas, this Court recognizes every charged individual has a right to a speedy and public trial.

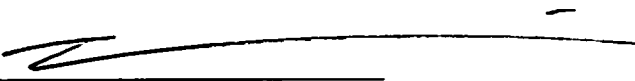
Whereas, the Colorado Supreme Court amended the C.M.C.R. and C.R.Cr.P. to address speedy trial during a public health crisis.

Whereas, this Court finds it can no longer hold a jury trial due to the current state of the pandemic while sufficiently ensuring the safety of the parties, jurors, court employees, and community. Given the current rates of COVID-19 transmission, assembling the number of individuals required for a jury trial in the courthouse would create an undue risk of infection and further spread of the virus.

Therefore, this Court is instituting a moratorium on jury trials to expire December 9, 2020, at which point the Court will reassess the risk level at that time. The Court further declares a mistrial in each case impacted by this Order and finds that speedy trial may be tolled for no more than 45 days for each mistrial. Parties may contact the Court in advance of their jury status date to re-schedule their trial in accordance with this Order.

Dated and ordered this 28<sup>th</sup> day of October, 2020.

**BY THE COURT:**

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Tiffany Sorice, Presiding Judge