

In light of the COVID-19 public health crisis and pursuant to all other issued ORDERS, the Court gives notice to all parties of the following procedures that are being put in place immediately in regards to the preliminary hearing division, Division 4C of the Denver County Court.

- 1. Docket will continue to be conducted remotely for purposes of bindover/waivers of preliminary hearings, plea/sentencing hearings, probation revocation hearings, bond hearings and preliminary hearings;
- 2. However, if the Defendant objects either in writing or orally to a virtual preliminary hearing, a virtual probation revocation hearing or a virtual sentencing hearing the Court will, pursuant to Crim. P. Rule 43, set the matter for an in person hearing with the following additional orders:
 - a. Advanced notice of 5 business days must be given to the Court that the Defendant is not consenting to a virtual hearing;
 - b. All parties must observe appropriate social distancing of at least six feet while in the hallways of the courthouse or the courtroom;
 - c. Defense counsel will be expected to provide a means of communicating with their client during the hearing, whether that be through direct communication or electronic communication, the Court will not provide any equipment to facilitate this communication. Counsel will be expected to coordinate with the Court **prior** to the hearing for access to the courtroom for setting up equipment;
 - d. All parties must wear a facial covering while in the courthouse and the courtroom, which cover the nose and mouth and are made from cloth or other appropriate material;
 - e. NO paperwork will be presented to the Court physically, all paperwork must be presented electronically prior to the hearing;
 - f. NO paperwork will be signed and passed back and forth in Court;
 - g. NO parties are permitted to approach the court staff;

- h. NO parties are permitted to enter the courthouse or courtroom if they have been exposed to someone who has tested positive for COVID-19 in the preceding 14 days or if they themselves have any symptoms associated with COVID-19 currently.
- 3. This ORDER will continue until further notice.

Done at Denver, Colorado this date: June 22, 2020

BY THE COURT:

JUDGE FRAN SIMONET