

In the Supreme Court of the State of Idaho

**IN RE: EMERGENCY REDUCTION)
IN COURT SERVICES AND)
LIMITATION OF ACCESS TO)
COURT FACILITIES)**

**ORDER
OCTOBER 8, 2020**

For public safety and to mitigate the spread of the novel coronavirus, and to expressly allow for in person bench trials and in person evidentiary hearings in juvenile cases, pursuant to Idaho Court Administrative Rule 48 all State of Idaho court proceedings shall be governed by the following rules until further order of the Court.

1. The minimum operating personnel for each court facility shall include at least one front desk deputy clerk and one courthouse security officer limiting access to court facilities. If any non-court staff appears in-person for a hearing, at least one additional court security officer in the courtroom is required.
2. No civil jury trials shall commence, nor shall a juror be required to appear in a civil case before December 1, 2020.
3. All trials on a petition to terminate parental rights and felony sentencing hearings in which the possible penalty includes a life sentence shall be held in person, subject to the safety protocols identified in paragraph 6 of this order.
4. All other court proceedings are presumptively to be held remotely, i.e. with all participants utilizing remote technologies including teleconferencing and video conferencing, and are subject to the following conditions and requirements:
 - a. Court rules which prohibit hearing any case or part thereof remotely are suspended during the effective term of this order.
 - b. Any party intending to offer documentary evidence during a hearing held remotely will provide the court and all parties a list of such exhibits and copies