

NORTH CAROLINA
SECOND DISTRICT

IN THE GENERAL COURT OF JUSTICE
SUPERIOR AND DISTRICT COURT DIVISIONS

21-R-64

FILED

2021 MAY 26 P 3:33

BEAUFORT CO., C.S.O.

BY: 

**ADMINISTRATIVE ORDER
COVID-19 EMERGENCY HEALTH CRISIS
FOR THE MONTH OF JUNE, 2021**

NOW COMES the undersigned Senior Resident Superior Court Judge and Chief District Court Judge for the Second Judicial District and enters this Administrative Order.

IT APPEARING TO THE COURT that The Chief Justice has lifted Emergency Directive 12 and Emergency Directive 21 and given the Senior Resident the discretion to set the guidelines for social distancing and face coverings. The Court finds that COVID-19 conditions in the District have improved as a result of vaccinations and behaviors and directs court proceedings to begin to transition back to a more normal level.

NOW, THEREFORE, IT IS ORDERED that:

A. Temperature Screening, Spacing and Masks

1. Each person shall have their temperature taken prior to entering the courthouse daily. A temperature above the CDC recommendation will result in the person not entering the building.
2. Hand sanitizer shall be available at the entry and exit of the facility and, preferably, at all high touch areas of the facility including doorways, service counters, stairwells and elevators.
3. All areas accessed by the public are cleaned daily with high touch areas cleaned periodically throughout the day (high touch areas include, but are not limited to doorknobs, water fountains, handrails, elevators walls and buttons, bathroom faucets and dispensers, and reception desks or counters).
4. The social distance spacing is reduced to at least 3 feet.

5. The maximum allowable occupancy of each courtroom or meeting space is established such that all persons who must sit or stand in such space shall observe social distancing of at least 3 feet.
6. Intervals of at least 3 feet will be marked with tape or other visible markers in all areas where the public is expected to congregate or wait in line.
7. The established maximum occupancy shall be prominently posted at the entrance of each courtroom or meeting space.
8. All persons who are in a court facility are required to wear a face covering while they are in common areas of the facility and courtroom. The Clerks of Superior Court shall post a notice of this requirement at the entrance to every court facility in their county. Failure to comply with this mandate could subject persons to Contempt of Court citations.
9. For Superior Court only, the Presiding Judge may allow the removal of masks during a proceeding, in their absolute discretion. Such an Order shall require masks to be worn in the common areas of the Judicial Facility.

B. Schedule of Superior Court for June 2021

June 1, 2021- (Tuesday) Martin County with Judge Sermons

09:30 am Martin County Criminal Admin Session

The District Attorney shall calendar any cases that are ready for administrative setting. Probation cases shall be heard on Monday morning. Plea offers shall be made prior to the date of court in writing. The District Attorney shall prepare a calendar which allocates designated time periods for each defense attorney.

June 7, 2021- Hyde County with Judge Wolfe

10:00 am Hyde County Civil Trial Session

Jury selection will be held at the Hyde County courthouse.

June 7, 2021- Beaufort County with Judge Sermons

09:30 am Beaufort County Admin Session

The District Attorney shall calendar any cases that are ready for administrative setting. Probation cases shall be heard on Monday morning. Plea offers shall be made prior to the date of court in writing. The District Attorney shall prepare a calendar which allocates designated time periods for each defense attorney.

June 21, 2021- Martin County with Judge Sermons

10:00 am Martin County Criminal Trial Session

Jury selection will be held at the Martin County courthouse utilizing available courtrooms and other spaces. The Martin County Grand Jury will meet in the Magistrates courtroom.

June 28, 2021- Martin County with Judge Foster

10:00 am Martin County Civil Trial Session

Jury selection will be held at the Martin County courthouse utilizing available courtrooms and other spaces.

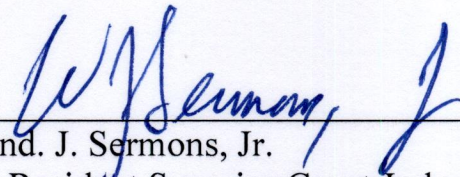
June 28, 2021- Beaufort County with Judge Sermons

10:00 am Beaufort County Criminal Trial Session

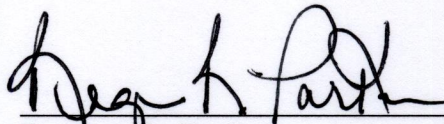
Jurors will report to the Washington Civic Center for jury selection. Trials will be held in the Superior Courtroom. The Beaufort County Grand Jury will meet in the Beaufort County Commissioner's meeting room.

C. That a District Court schedule will be set forth in a separate Order of the Chief District Court Judge.

This the 26th day of May, 2021.



Wayland. J. Sermons, Jr.
Senior Resident Superior Court Judge
Second Judicial District



Regina R. Parker
Chief District Court Judge
Second Judicial District