

1                   **IN THE SUPREME COURT OF THE STATE OF NEW MEXICO**

2   **May 28, 2020**

3                   **NO. 20-8500-020**

4                   **IN THE MATTER OF**  
5                   **RECOMMENCING JURY TRIALS**  
6                   **DURING THE COVID-19 PUBLIC HEALTH EMERGENCY**

7  
8   **ORDER**

9                   WHEREAS, this Court suspended civil and criminal jury trials until May 29,  
10                  2020, in Order No. 20-8500-013 in light of the ongoing public health emergency;

11                  WHEREAS, the evolving nature of the public health emergency will permit  
12                  the recommencement of jury trials in a manner that is consistent with the latest  
13                  precautionary measures recommended by public health officials for reopening  
14                  New Mexico in a safe and gradual manner that is based on the local circumstances  
15                  and available resources in each judicial district; and

16                  WHEREAS, in light of the foregoing, and the Court wishing to begin the  
17                  recommencement of jury trials and being sufficiently advised, Chief Justice Judith  
18                  K. Nakamura, Justice Barbara J. Vigil, Justice Michael E. Vigil, Justice C.  
19                  Shannon Bacon, and Justice David K. Thomson concurring;

20                  NOW, THEREFORE, IT IS ORDERED that civil and criminal jury trials  
21                  may recommence between June 15, 2020, and July 15, 2020, in each judicial  
22                  district pursuant to individualized plans submitted by the chief judge in each

1 judicial district for approval by this Court;

2 IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that each judicial district's plan for  
3 recommencing jury trials shall incorporate all of the precautionary measures this  
4 Court has previously ordered for the safe operation of courthouses in New Mexico,  
5 provided that the fifteen (15)-person maximum gathering restriction previously  
6 ordered by this Court may be exceeded if a minimum of six (6) feet in each  
7 direction between every individual can be maintained while entering, inside, and  
8 exiting the courthouse;

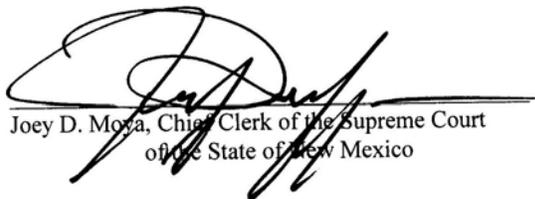
9 IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that each judicial district shall submit a plan to  
10 this Court for recommencing civil and criminal jury trials at least fourteen (14)  
11 days before the date that the judicial district plans to resume jury selection and jury  
12 trial gatherings; and

13 IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that this order shall remain in effect until  
14 amended or withdrawn by future order of this Court.

15 IT IS SO ORDERED.



WITNESS, the Honorable Judith K. Nakamura, Chief Justice of the Supreme Court of the State of New Mexico, and the seal of said Court this 28th day of May, 2020.

  
Joey D. Moza, Chief Clerk of the Supreme Court  
of the State of New Mexico

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