



CORONAVIRUS & THE COURTS

#CovidAndTheCourts

(updated July 29)

Latest Updates

Colorado: Chief Justice issues [order on court operations](#). No person shall be summoned to assemble for jury service in a state court without the authorization of the Chief Judge of the particular judicial district, following his or her determination that the jury pool in question can be safely assembled consistent with applicable executive orders and health directives.

Hawaii: Chief Justice issues [Order Regarding Judiciary Operations](#).

Idaho: Jury trials suspended [until September 14 \(criminal\) and December 1 \(civil\)](#).

Iowa: Supreme Court issues order [In the Matter of Resuming Jury Trials During COVID-19](#). Trials remain [suspended until September 14](#).

Kentucky: Suspensions of jury trials extended [until August 1 \(criminal\) and October 1 \(civil\)](#). Supreme Court Order issued RE: [Response to COVID-19 Emergency Health and Safety Requirements](#).

Massachusetts: [Supreme Judicial Court Order](#) provides persons who are required to quarantine under the Governor's order will be prohibited from entering courthouses.

Missouri: Supreme Court issues [Operational Directives for Easing COVID-19 Restrictions on In-Person Proceedings](#).

New Hampshire: [Restrictions](#) on in-person proceedings and suspensions of jury trials extended through August 17.

New Jersey: Jury trials to resume [in or around September](#).

North Carolina: Jury trials suspended [until August 19](#).

Wyoming: Supreme Court issues [Covid-19 Jury Trial Guidance](#). Jury trials suspended until October 5 unless [jury trial operating plan adopted](#). [All other in-person proceedings generally suspended until October 5](#).

Alabama

COVID-19 website: n/a, information posted to main page of judiciary's website judicial.alabama.gov

Statewide ordered delays or restrictions: Restrictions on in-person proceedings end [May 15](#) (local courts may set local restrictions until August 15); suspensions of jury trials extended [until September 14](#).

Local: Local orders preempted by statewide order.

Alaska

COVID-19 website: <http://courts.alaska.gov/main/response.htm>

Statewide ordered delays or restrictions: [Statewide order on visitor health precautions issued](#). Jury trials [suspended until September 1](#).

Local: Local orders preempted by statewide order.

Arizona

COVID-19 website: <https://www.azcourts.gov/covid19/>

Statewide ordered delays or restrictions: Suspensions of jury trials extended [until June 15](#). Beginning July 1, 2020, to the extent logistically possible, the presiding judge of the superior court shall provide public access by video or audio to civil and criminal court proceedings typically open to the public to maximize the public's ability to observe court proceedings.

Local: Local orders preempted by statewide order

Arkansas

COVID-19 website: <https://www.arcourts.gov/arkansas-supreme-court-statement-novel-coronavirus-outbreak-and-courts>

Statewide ordered delays or restrictions: Statewide order [suspending jury trials to be lifted on July 1](#). Order does not mandate the resumption of in-person proceedings, but rather lifts the suspension previously announced.

Local: Local orders preempted by statewide order

California

COVID-19 website: <https://newsroom.courts.ca.gov/coronavirus-updates>

Statewide ordered delays or restrictions: [All jury trials are suspended and continued for 60 days](#). Courts may conduct a trial at an earlier date upon finding of good cause shown or through use of remote technology when appropriate.

Local: [Numerous local courts have issued local orders regarding jury trials and/or in-person proceedings](#).

Colorado

COVID-19 website: <https://www.courts.state.co.us/announcements/COVID-19.cfm>

Statewide ordered delays or restrictions: Suspensions of jury trials extended [until August 3](#). No person shall be summoned to assemble for jury service in a state court without the authorization of the Chief Judge of the particular judicial district, following his or her determination that the jury pool in question can be safely assembled consistent with applicable executive orders and health directives.

Local: [Numerous local courts have issued local orders regarding in-person proceedings](#).



Connecticut

COVID-19 website: <https://jud.ct.gov/COVID19.htm>

Statewide ordered delays or restrictions: [Until further notice](#), under the terms and provisions of the Judicial Branch's Continuity of Operations Plan (COOP), the courts will schedule and hear only those matters identified as "Priority 1 Business Functions."

Local: Local orders preempted by statewide order.

Delaware

COVID-19 website: <https://courts.delaware.gov/aoc/covid-19>

Statewide ordered delays or restrictions: Phase 2 restrictions (as defined by [June 5, 2020 order](#)) on in-person proceedings and suspensions of jury trials extended [until August 7](#).

Local: Local orders preempted by statewide order.

Florida

COVID-19 website: <https://www.flcourts.org/Resources-Services/Emergency-Preparedness/COVID-19-Information-and-Updates>

Statewide ordered delays or restrictions: Restrictions on in-person proceedings and suspensions of jury trials extended [until July 2](#).

Local: Local orders preempted by statewide order.

Georgia

COVID-19 website: https://www.gasupreme.us/court-information/court_corona_info/

Statewide ordered delays or restrictions: Restrictions on in-person proceedings and suspensions of jury trials extended [until June 12](#).

Local: Numerous local courts have suspended or postponed jury trials.

Hawaii

COVID-19 website: <https://www.courts.state.hi.us/covid-19-information-page>

Statewide ordered delays or restrictions: Suspensions of jury trials [extended until June 30](#).

Local: n/a (state has centralized management of its courts)

Idaho

COVID-19 website: <https://isc.idaho.gov/Emergency%20Orders>

Statewide ordered delays or restrictions: Restrictions on in-person proceedings extended until May 1. [Suspensions of jury trials](#) extended until August 3, 2020 (criminal) and October 5 (civil).

Local: [Numerous local orders have been issued](#).

Illinois

COVID-19 website: <http://www.illinoiscourts.gov/Administrative/covid-19.asp>

Statewide ordered delays or restrictions: [Supreme Court orders](#) that the Chief Judges of each circuit **may** continue trials until further order of the Supreme Court.

Local: [Numerous jury postponements](#).



Indiana

COVID-19 website: <https://www.in.gov/judiciary/5575.htm>

Statewide ordered delays or restrictions: Suspensions of jury trials [extended until July 1](#). Trial courts shall submit their transition plans for expanded operations and submit those plans for this Court's approval no later than May 30, 2020.

Local: [Emergency Petitions for Administrative Orders for Local Courts to Operate](#)

Iowa

COVID-19 website: <https://www.iowacourts.gov/iowa-courts/covid-19-information-and-updates/>

Statewide ordered delays or restrictions: Restrictions on in-person proceedings extended until June 1. [Trials suspended to September 14](#).

Local: Local orders preempted by statewide order.

Kansas

COVID-19 website: [https://www.kscourts.org/About-the-Courts/Court-Administration/OJA/Kansas-Courts-Response-to-Coronavirus-\(COVID-19\)](https://www.kscourts.org/About-the-Courts/Court-Administration/OJA/Kansas-Courts-Response-to-Coronavirus-(COVID-19))

Statewide ordered delays or restrictions: Restrictions on in-person proceedings and suspensions of jury trials extended [until further notice/order of the Chief Justice](#).

Local: numerous localities have suspended or delayed trials.

Kentucky

COVID-19 website: <https://kycourts.gov/Pages/Coronavirus.aspx>

Statewide ordered delays or restrictions: Suspensions of jury trials extended [until August 1 \(criminal\) and October 1 \(civil\)](#).

Local: Local orders preempted by statewide order.

Louisiana

COVID-19 website: <https://www.lasc.org/COVID19/>

Statewide ordered delays or restrictions: Restrictions on in-person proceedings lifted.

Jury trials remain suspended [until June 30](#).

Local: Local orders may be in effect.

Maine

COVID-19 website: <https://www.courts.maine.gov/covid19.shtml>

Statewide ordered delays or restrictions: Restrictions on in-person proceedings extended [until May 30](#). Suspensions of jury trials extend until June 30.

Local: Local orders preempted by statewide order.

Maryland

COVID-19 website: <https://www.courts.state.md.us/coronavirusupdate>

Statewide ordered delays or restrictions: All other matters scheduled to be heard between [March 16, 2020, through May 1, 2020](#), are postponed pending further order of the Chief Judge of the Court of Appeals. All courts in the Maryland Judiciary, court offices, administrative offices, units of the Judiciary, and the Offices of the Clerks of the Circuit Courts and the clerks' offices of the District Court [shall be restricted to emergency operations and closed with limited exceptions as described in this order beginning on March 17, 2020, through May 1, 2020](#), or until further order of the Chief Judge of the Court of Appeals.

Local: Local orders preempted by statewide order.



Massachusetts

COVID-19 website: <https://www.mass.gov/guides/court-system-response-to-covid-19>
Statewide ordered delays or restrictions: Restrictions on in-person proceedings [extended until July 17](#). Suspensions of jury trials remain extended [until September 8](#).
Local: Local orders preempted by statewide order.

Michigan

COVID-19 website: <https://courts.michigan.gov/News-Events/Pages/COVID-19.aspx>
Statewide ordered delays or restrictions: Suspensions of jury trials extended [until June 22](#). Pilot testing of remote jury trials to take place.
Local: [Local administrative orders](#) approved for courts to return to full capacity service.

Minnesota

COVID-19 website: <http://www.mncourts.gov/Emergency.aspx>
Statewide ordered delays or restrictions: [Effective May 18, 2020](#), judges and court staff shall implement the transitional case strategies approved by the Judicial Council for proceedings pending in the district court. Supreme Court order provides that courts are expected to meet conditions established by the Judicial Council-approved [Minnesota Judicial Branch COVID-19 Preparedness Plan](#). Pilot jury trials may proceed on or after June 1, 2020.
Local: Local orders preempted by statewide order.

Mississippi

COVID-19 website: n/a, information posted to main page of judiciary's website courts.ms.gov
Statewide ordered delays or restrictions: In counties where there are two or fewer deaths as of May 7, judges may instruct their clerks that jury summonses may be sent to jurors that would be returnable on or after [May 18](#). In all other counties, jury trials may resume June 15.
Local: numerous localities have suspended or delayed trials.

Missouri

COVID-19 website: <https://www.courts.mo.gov/pandemic/>
Statewide ordered delays or restrictions: Restrictions on in-person proceedings and jury trials [extended until May 1](#).
Local: [Local orders available for additional restrictions](#).

Montana

COVID-19 website: n/a, information posted to main page of judiciary's website courts.mt.gov
Statewide ordered delays or restrictions: Restrictions on in-person proceedings and suspensions of jury trials extended [until May 4](#). [Memo](#) from the Chief Justice directs courts set certain practices by May 4, including limitation on proceedings to no more than 14 people unless physical distancing can be maintained, etc.
Local: [numerous localities have suspended or delayed trials](#).

Nebraska

COVID-19 website: <https://supremecourt.nebraska.gov/administration/nebraska-judicial-branch-emergency-status-information>
Statewide ordered delays or restrictions: None. [Restrictions on those with or suspected of having COVID-19](#).
Local: Unclear/no information



Nevada

COVID-19 website: n/a, information posted to main page of judiciary's website nvcourts.gov

Statewide ordered delays or restrictions: No statewide order.

Local: The Supreme Court of Nevada has organized all state judicial COVID-19 orders into 3 separate Administrative Order (ADKT) categories for the separate courts in Nevada: [ADKT 0554](#) (Supreme Court Orders), [ADKT 0555](#) (District Court Orders), and [ADKT 0556](#) (Limited Jurisdiction Court Orders).

New Hampshire

COVID-19 website: <https://www.courts.state.nh.us/aoc/corona-covid-19.html>

Statewide ordered delays or restrictions: [Restrictions](#) on in-person proceedings and suspensions of jury trials extended through August 17.

Local: Local orders preempted by statewide order.

New Jersey

COVID-19 website: n/a, information posted to main page of judiciary's website njcourts.gov

Statewide ordered delays or restrictions: Jury trials to resume [in or around September](#).

Local: Local orders preempted by statewide order.

New Mexico

COVID-19 website: <https://www.nmcourts.gov/news.aspx>

Statewide ordered delays or restrictions: Suspension of jury trials extended [to May 29](#).

Courts will limit the number of people to no more than 15 in courtrooms and other locations inside a courthouse to promote social distancing recommended by public health officials

Local: Protection protocols in place.

New York

COVID-19 website: <https://www.nycourts.gov/whatsnew/covid.shtml>

Statewide ordered delays or restrictions: [Conclude current trials, but no new trials to begin. All non-essential functions postponed.](#)

Local: n/a; statewide order issued.

North Carolina

COVID-19 website: <https://www.nccourts.gov/covid-19-coronavirus-updates>

Statewide ordered delays or restrictions: Jury trials suspended [until August 19](#). No session of court may be scheduled if doing so would result in members of the public sitting or standing in close proximity and/or for extended periods of time in contravention of current public health guidance.

Local: Local orders preempted by statewide order.

North Dakota

COVID-19 website: <https://www.ndcourts.gov/emergency-order-and-pandemic-response>

Statewide ordered delays or restrictions: Jury trials suspended [until July 1](#).

Local: Local orders preempted by statewide order.



Ohio

COVID-19 website: <http://www.supremecourt.ohio.gov/coronavirus/default.asp>

Statewide ordered delays or restrictions: none

Local: numerous localities have suspended or delayed trials.

Oklahoma

COVID-19 website: information posted to main page of judiciary's website

<https://www.oscn.net/v4/>

Statewide ordered delays or restrictions: [Subject only to constitutional limitations, assigned judges should reschedule all non-jury trial settings, hearings, and pretrial settings.](#)

Local: numerous localities have suspended or delayed trials.

Oregon

COVID-19 website: <https://www.courts.oregon.gov/courts/Pages/coronavirus.aspx>

Statewide ordered delays or restrictions: Non-essential proceedings and most jury trials suspended until June 1. Presiding Judge directed to work with local law enforcement and community corrections to identify persons housed in their jails who can be safely released or are eligible for release.

Local: numerous localities have suspended or delayed trials.

Pennsylvania

COVID-19 website: <http://www.pacourts.us/ujs-coronavirus-information>

Statewide ordered delays or restrictions: Restrictions on in-person proceedings and jury trials [extended until April 30.](#)

Local: [numerous localities have suspended or delayed trials.](#)

Rhode Island

COVID-19 website: n/a, information posted to main page of judiciary's website www.courts.ri.gov

Statewide ordered delays or restrictions: Restrictions on in-person proceedings and suspensions of jury trials extended [until May 17.](#)

Local: Local orders preempted by statewide order.

South Carolina

COVID-19 website: n/a, information posted to main page of judiciary's website <https://www.sccourts.org/>

Statewide ordered delays or restrictions: Restrictions on in-person proceedings and suspensions of jury trials imposed [until further notice/order of the Supreme Court.](#)

Local: numerous localities have suspended or delayed trials.

South Dakota

COVID-19 website: n/a, information posted to main page of judiciary's website ujs.sd.gov

Statewide ordered delays or restrictions: n/a. [Local judges may adopt rules changes subject to approval by Chief Justice.](#)

Local: n/a.



Tennessee

COVID-19 website: <https://www.tncourts.gov/Coronavirus>

Statewide ordered delays or restrictions: Suspensions of jury trials extended [until July 3](#).

In-person proceedings may take place [where local plans to do so](#) have been approved by Supreme Court.

Local: Statewide order issued. [Local courts have taken additional measures](#).

Texas

COVID-19 website: <https://www.txcourts.gov/media/coronavirus-covid-19-response/>

Statewide ordered delays or restrictions: [Suspensions of jury trials extended until September 1](#), but limited number of jury proceedings under certain conditions.

Local: numerous localities have suspended or delayed trials.

Utah

COVID-19 website: <https://www.utcourts.gov/alerts/>

Statewide ordered delays or restrictions: Supreme Court issued a [Revised Administrative Order](#) that adopts a new [Pandemic Response Plan](#). The plan outlines criteria for Red, Yellow, and Green phases of court operations.

Local: Unclear/no information

Vermont

COVID-19 website: <https://www.vermontjudiciary.org/news/information-regarding-coronavirus-disease-2019-covid-19-and-court-operations>

Statewide ordered delays or restrictions: Restrictions on in-person proceedings [extended to June 1](#); suspensions of jury trials extended until September 1 for criminal cases and January 1, 2021 for civil.

Local: Local orders preempted by statewide order.

Virginia

COVID-19 website: n/a, information posted to main page of judiciary's website courts.state.va.us

Statewide ordered delays or restrictions: Restrictions on in-person proceedings extended [until May 17](#). Jury trials suspended until locality submits restart plan that is approved by a panel of three Justices in consultation with the Office of the Executive Secretary.

Local: Local orders preempted by statewide order.

Washington

COVID-19 website:

<http://www.courts.wa.gov/newsinfo/index.cfm?fa=newsinfo.COVID19>

Statewide ordered delays or restrictions: Restrictions on in-person proceedings end June 1, 2020. [Courts may restart jury trials](#) July 6 while observing social distancing and following the most protective applicable public health guidance in their jurisdiction.

Local: [numerous localities have suspended or delayed trials](#).

West Virginia

COVID-19 website: <http://www.courtswv.gov/covid19/COVID19.html>

Statewide ordered delays or restrictions: Restrictions on in-person proceedings and suspensions of jury trials extended [until May 15](#).

Local: Unclear/no information



Wisconsin

COVID-19 website: n/a, information posted to main page of judiciary's website www.wicourts.gov (Tab: COVID-19)

Statewide ordered delays or restrictions: Restrictions on in-person proceedings and suspension of jury trials extended until court submits reopen/restart plans consisting with interim rule [adopted May 22](#).

Local: [numerous localities have suspended or delayed trials](#). (Tab: COVID-19)

Wyoming

COVID-19 website: <https://www.courts.state.wy.us/coronavirus-covid-19-updates/>

Statewide ordered delays or restrictions: Jury trials suspended until October 5 unless [jury trial operating plan adopted](#). [All other in-person proceedings generally suspended until October 5](#).

Local: [numerous localities have put in place additional restrictions](#).

Washington, DC

COVID-19 website: <https://www.dccourts.gov/coronavirus>

Districtwide ordered delays or restrictions: [To the extent that a case type has not been identified below, all nonpriority matters scheduled before May 1, 2020, will be rescheduled and new dates set; emergency matters will be heard as scheduled by the court and as set forth \[in the order\]](#).

Local: n/a. Districtwide order issued.

US Virgin Islands

COVID-19 website: n/a, information posted to main page of judiciary's website www.vicourts.org

Territory wide ordered delays or restrictions: [Restriction on entrance into courthouses. No civil or criminal jury trials will be conducted in the Superior Court of the Virgin Islands except for those already in process until further notice](#).

Local: n/a. Territory wide order issued.

Puerto Rico

COVID-19 website: <http://www.ramajudicial.pr/Plan-emergencia-COVID-19.htm>

Commonwealth wide ordered delays or restrictions: Restrictions on in-person proceedings and suspensions of jury trials extended [until May 25](#).

Local: n/a. Commonwealth wide order issued.

Guam

COVID-19 website: n/a, information posted to main page of judiciary's website www.guamsupremecourt.com

Territory wide ordered delays or restrictions: Restrictions on in-person proceedings and suspensions of jury trials extended [until June 5](#).

Local: n/a (no localized courts)

American Samoa

COVID-19 website: n/a, information posted to main page of judiciary's website www.americansamoa.gov/judicial-branch

Territory wide ordered delays or restrictions: Unclear/no information

Local: n/a (no localized courts)



Northern Mariana Islands

COVID-19 website: n/a, information posted to main page of judiciary's website
nmijudiciary.com

Territory wide ordered delays or restrictions: Restrictions on in-person proceedings and suspension jury trials imposed [until June 5](#).

Local: n/a (no localized courts)

