

Listserv Notice 20-5
March 20, 2020

UPDATES IN DISTRICT COURT PROCEDURES
IMPLEMENTING KANSAS SUPREME COURT ORDERS
See: 2020 PR 016

Service of Process

The court recalls all service for hearings scheduled through May 10, 2020. This puts all hearings out past the CDC's most recently recommended eight weeks of limited interaction. Service for hearings past May 10th can proceed and may be reviewed as we go further into our emergency pandemic response.

For each case where service is recalled, a ROA entry will be added stating:

“Service has been recalled per Supreme Court Order 2020-PR-016. Once the court returns to normal operations request for service may be refiled with the court.”

Criminal Department Procedures

The second appearance hearings following first appearance/arraignment matters for in-custody defendants in Division M-4, beginning next week (Monday, March 23), are as follows:

Division 3: Monday, March 30
Division 8: Tuesday, March 31
Division 13: Wednesday, April 1
Division 17: Thursday, April 2*
Division 18: Thursday, April 2*
Division 19: Friday, April 3

(*- Division 17 and 18 cases will be heard together in Division 18)

The hearings for these defendants will be heard at 10:00am in the respective divisions on the designated weekday.

Division M-3: Wednesday, April 1 @ 1:30 PM

All out-of-custody defendants will be set for their next court appearance 60 days from their first appearance in Division M-4.

This schedule will continue into the foreseeable future and the judges will continue to review this scheduling procedure on a weekly basis for any changes or corrections.

There will not be any evidentiary hearings (i.e., preliminary hearings, contested probation revocation hearings) until further notice.

The judges will not schedule any hearings unless a party or both parties request a hearing during this emergency protocol period. The judges will be available on their respective court days for matters that are deemed to require expeditious handling. Any such hearings will be held either telephonically or by remote video and audio. Defendants and counsel will not appear in court for most, if not all, hearings under these procedures.

The individual courts will be contacting counsel to set hearings on any matter that is currently scheduled for jury trial from March 23 through the end of April, in order to continue the case to a new scheduling conference date and to make the appropriate record of the continuance under Supreme Court Administrative Order 2020-PR-016 and upon publication of 2020 House Substitute for Senate Bill No. 102.

Please let me know if you have further questions or concerns as we all move forward in an effort to establish some continuity of operations during this pandemic crisis.

Protection from Abuse/Protection from Stalking
Family Court (Divs. 1, 5, 9, 14, and 16) and Regular (Divs. 2, 4, 6, 7, 11, and M-2)

[Will be updated as soon as possible.]

DCT Hearing Officers

[See Family Court procedures.]

We ask that you help disseminate this information to others. If there are self-represented litigants in your case(s), please pass this along to them. If you have any questions, please direct them to the assigned Division on you case(s).

As with most emergency situation, this is always subject to change as health issues change, as the Kansas Supreme Court may from time-to-time direct, or as we locally deem appropriate and justified under the circumstances. Decisions are being made based upon the best information available at the time. We appreciate your patience.

FOR THE COURT