

RENO MUNICIPAL COURT TO REOPEN FOR IN PERSON TRIALS

Based upon the downward trend of infections and hospitalizations in cases of the Covid-19 pandemic, and with deep gratitude to our health care providers, the Judges of this Court have determined that a limited reopening for in-person trials is warranted.

We will again utilize the action plan originally instituted, which allows for two judges and their respective staff rotating per week operating in courtrooms on different floors, with the open courtrooms to be used for attorneys, clients and witnesses. That rotation will result in a ten day quarantine of each Department in the event of any exposure.

All mandatory safety precautions will remain in place, including masks, social distancing and limited attendance in the courts to individualized matters. Only attorneys, their clients and witnesses who will testify at trial, will be allowed within the building. Our Marshall's Division will supervise the required social distancing by attendees. Each attorney will be responsible for sanitizing their area subsequent to their appearance.

The schedule for trials will be as follows:

March 22*-25: Dept.1 (Judge Drakulich, Courtroom C) and Dept. 4 (Judge Hazlett-Stevens, Courtroom A)

*Note- Judge O'Neill will cover Monday, March 22 for Dept. 4 and a Pro-Temp will cover Judge O'Neill's traffic calendar.

March 29-April 1st: Dept. 3 (Judge Nash-Holmes, Courtroom D) and Dept. 2 (Judge O'Neill, Courtroom B)

All other matters, traffic, bail-outs and prisoner videos will continue to be conducted using the Zoom application.

Thanks to all RMC Staff, Marshalls, attorneys and participants for your valiant efforts and patience to provide safe and efficient access to justice during these trying times.

Hon, Shelly T. O'Neill

Chief Judge

Reno Municipal Court, Department Two