
ORDER

The Outagamie County Circuit Court Judges do hereby enter into the following Order regarding court operations, pursuant to the Wisconsin Supreme Court Order dated May 21, 2021:

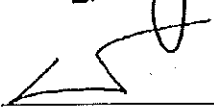
1. The Outagamie County COVID-19 Operational Plan of July 1, 2020 and Amended Operational Plan for Resumption of In-Person and Jury Trials dated March 17, 2021 shall be rescinded as of the effective date of this Order. The Outagamie County Circuit Court Branches may resume normal operations for all general court appearances as noted below, with the exception of jury trials and mental health proceedings.
2. The Courts recognize that all litigants are currently relying upon appearances in the format as they were scheduled. Therefore, all previously scheduled Pexip appearances will continue as scheduled. The Courts should continue to utilize remote appearances via Pexip, as appropriate. Pursuant to Wis. Stat 967.10, the Courts can continue to utilize Pexip for certain hearings without consent of the parties unless good cause is found to hold the hearings in person (Initial Appearances, preliminary hearing waivers, Arraignments, etc).
3. Court Commissioners will continue to hold Initial Appearance court hearings, return dates and other mass attendance hearings remotely until September 1, 2021. Commissioners also should continue to utilize remote appearances via Pexip, as appropriate for future court hearings.
4. The Circuit Courts and Court Commissioners will follow any existing Outagamie County policy related to mask wearing for hearings held in-person within the courtrooms. The Court may allow a party to lower their mask or wear a face shield when communicating with the Court, upon approval of the judge. Witnesses providing testimony will wear a clear face shield during testimony. The Courts will indicate to the parties on the record, what procedures will be followed for child witnesses.
5. The following modifications and restrictions shall be in place through September 1, 2021, as it pertains to jury trials at the Outagamie County Courthouse:
 - a. On-site jury selection shall continue in the large conference room which has been utilized during the duration of the operational plans.

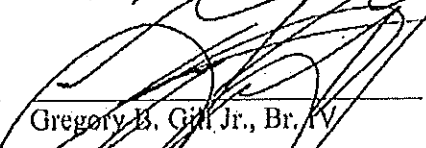
- b. Jury selection report times and commencement of jury trials shall be staggered and coordinated between the Circuit Court branches to ensure jurors have adequate space to assemble.
 - c. Circuit Court Branches 2 and 3 will continue to be utilized for jury trials to allow for social distancing of jurors and the litigants. An additional courtroom may be modified in the event of three jury trials being held simultaneously.
 - d. A combination of courtrooms and/or the large County Conference room shall continue to be utilized as the jury room for trials. Deliberations must take place in a secure area, including utilization of the jury trial courtroom for jury deliberations, if needed.
 - e. The judges agree to continue to give priority for jury trials to in custody defendants and cases with statutory time limits. The judges will also coordinate and prioritize jury trials so the oldest cases or those with special circumstances occur in a timely manner.
6. Pexip remote appearances shall continue to be the preference for mental health proceedings, unless good cause is found to hold the matter in person.


This Order shall become effective June 1, 2021.

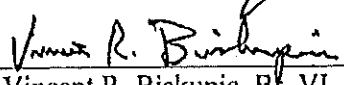

 Mark E. McGinnis, Br. I



 Emily I. Lonergran, Br. II

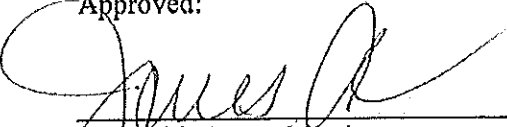

 Mitchell J. Metropulos Br. III


 Gregory B. Gill Jr., Br. IV


 Carrie A. Schneider, Br. V


 Vincent R. Biskupic, Br. VI


 Mark G. Schroeder, Br. VII

Approved:

 Honorable James Morrison
 Chief Judge, Eighth Judicial District