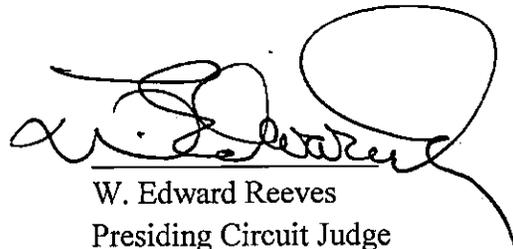


IN THE THIRTY-FOURTH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT,
STATE OF MISSOURI

ADMINISTRATIVE ORDER

RE: COVID-19,
EXTENSION OF
SUSPENSION OF
JURY TRIALS

Previously, the Court suspended all jury trials through October 30, 2020. As of October 9th, in light of exposures to courthouse employees to COVID-19 and rising positivity rates in this Circuit, the Circuit reverted to Phase Zero of the Supreme Court's May 4, 2020, Operating Directives, as amended. Jury trials by Order of this Court are suspended while in Phase Zero. The length of time that the Circuit will continue in Phase Zero is dependent upon local health conditions, which must show improvement for fourteen days prior to a transition to Phase One, and the same must be true for transition up to each successive Operational Phase thereafter. During Phase Three jury trials may be conducted. The earliest date upon which this Circuit could transition to Phase Three is November 20, 2020. The following week is the week of the Thanksgiving Holiday, it should be noted. The improvement of local health conditions over time is impossible to predict, however, and litigants and attorneys benefit from more certainty with regard to trial dates and trial preparation. Therefore, the Court hereby extends its previous suspension of jury trials through November 30, 2020, regardless of whether in the interim this Circuit transitions back to Phase Three of the Supreme Court's Operating Directives. This Order may be extended if necessary.



W. Edward Reeves
Presiding Circuit Judge

10/14/2020
Date