IN THE SUPREME COURT OF THE STATE OF NEW MEXICO

November 13, 2020

NO. 20-8500-039

IN THE MATTER OF THE AMENDMENT OF THE NEW MEXICO JUDICIARY PUBLIC HEALTH EMERGENCY PROTOCOLS FOR THE SAFE AND EFFECTIVE ADMINISTRATION OF THE NEW MEXICO JUDICIARY DURING THE COVID-19 PUBLIC HEALTH EMERGENCY

ORDER

WHEREAS, on November 13, 2020, the latest public health order was issued to combat the increased spread of COVID-19 infections during the ongoing public health emergency through enhanced restrictions on in-person gatherings;

WHEREAS, due to the urgent need to minimize in-person gatherings and out-of-state travel to address the surge of COVID-19 infections, this matter has come before the Court upon recommendation to amend the New Mexico Judiciary's Emergency Court Protocols to temporarily suspend jury trials until January 1, 2021, while continuing to hold other judicial proceedings within strict limitations on in-person judicial proceedings required by existing Emergency Court Protocols, and to clarify out-of-state travel restrictions for judicial officers and judicial employees; and

WHEREAS, the Court having considered the recommendation and being sufficiently advised, Chief Justice Michael E. Vigil, Justice Barbara J. Vigil, Justice Judith K. Nakamura, Justice C. Shannon Bacon, and Justice David K. Thomson concurring;

NOW, THEREFORE, IT IS ORDERED that the recommendation to temporarily suspend jury trials is ADOPTED and the amendment of Emergency Court Protocols Nos. 1, 2, and 3 is APPROVED, effective immediately.

IT IS SO ORDERED.

WITNESS, the Honorable Michael E. Vigil, Chief Justice of the Supreme Court of the State of New Mexico, and the seal of said Court this 13th day of November, 2020.

Joey D. Moya, Chief Clerk of the Supreme Court
of the State of New Mexico