IN THE SUPREME COURT OF THE STATE OF KANSAS

Administrative Order

2020-CM-050

FILED
JUN 02 2020
DOUGLAS T. SHIMA
CLERK OF APPELLATE COURTS

RE: AD HOC JURY TASK FORCE

Pursuant to authority under Article 3, Section 1 of the Kansas Constitution, the Supreme Court hereby creates the Ad Hoc Jury Task Force.

Beginning with the filing of Administrative Order 2020-PR-016 on March 18, 2020, Kansas courts have restricted functions or methods of operation in order to secure the health and safety of court users, staff, and judicial officers. Since April 3, 2020, under Administrative Order 2020-PR-032, Kansas courts have conducted essential functions and any other function that could be performed without an in-person hearing. On May 1, 2020, the Kansas Supreme Court issued Administrative Order 2020-PR-048 which allows courts in counties not affected by a stay-at-home order or subject to a directive closing a county courthouse or judicial office to begin making plans to resume additional functions. On May 27, 2020, the Kansas Supreme Court issued Administrative Order 2020-PR-054 which provides updated requirements for district and appellate courts as they resume additional functions.

To support the courts in planning, the task force will analyze the issues courts will face when jury operations resume. The task force will examine issues, explore and evaluate possible solutions, and make recommendations for best practices regarding:

- ways to conduct jury trials and grand jury proceedings while protecting the safety of judges, court staff, the public, litigants, witnesses, and jurors, including the use of virtual technology, sanitation practices, and maintaining physical distancing;
- the jury summons process, including the qualification process, obtaining adequate jury pools, and screening jurors;
- communication with the public about the jury process; and
- any other topic the group believes will benefit the courts in planning the resumption of jury operations.

The following persons are hereby appointed to serve on the Ad Hoc Jury Task Force:

Hon. Amy Hanley, chair, district court judge, 7th judicial district
Hon. Steven Ebberts, district court judge, 3rd judicial district
Hon. Lori Bolton Fleming, district court judge, 11th judicial district

Hon. Laura Lewis, district court judge, 16th judicial district
Hon. Christopher Smith, district court judge, 19th judicial district
Katherine Stocks, court administrator, 10th judicial district
Janelle Morel, chief clerk, 17th judicial district
Kristi Hill, clerk, 29th judicial district
Crystal Gossett, clerk, 30th judicial district
Andrea Skucius, secretary II, 20th judicial district
Mary Kay Howe, court reporter, 7th judicial district
Paul Brothers, attorney, Topeka
Terrence Campbell, attorney, Lawrence
Jeffrey Dazey, attorney, Topeka
James Howell, attorney, Wichita
Kate McKinney, attorney, Overland Park
Christopher McMullin, attorney, Olathe
Dionne Scherff, attorney, Overland Park

The group will be supported by Amy Raymond, Director of Trial Court Programs, and other office of judicial administration personnel as needed.

Dated this 2nd day of June 2020.

FOR THE COURT

Marla Luckert

MARLA LUCKERT
Chief Justice