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PRESS RELEASE

Courts Extend Start Date for Jury Trials to November 9, 2020

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

10/16/2020

Executive Office of the Trial Court

District Court

Boston Municipal Court

Juvenile Court

Massachusetts Court System

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BOSTON, MA — Trial Court Chief Justice Paula M. Carey has announced that the earliest potential start date for jury trials will be extended to Monday, November 9, 2020. The Supreme Judicial Court had authorized Phase 1 in the resumption of jury trials to begin no earlier than October 23, 2020.

Courts have been working toward the gradual resumption of jury trials. Plans call for initially conducting a limited number of jury trials, with six-person juries, in a designated number of courthouses, per the **report issued by the Jury Management Advisory Committee** (/doc/jury-management-advisory-committee-jmac-report-and-recommendations-to-the-justices-of-the).

The Office of Jury Commissioner is cancelling jurors summoned for the weeks of October 26 and November 2.

“We continue to review building systems to minimize any risk to jurors, court users and court staff,” said Chief Justice Carey. “We are following CDC guidance in terms of occupancy levels and want to take a few more weeks to prepare. This is a complicated process, given the coordination required.”

Any trials scheduled prior to November 9 will be rescheduled.

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Executive Office of the Trial Court (/orgs/executive-office-of-the-trial-court)

The Executive Office of the Trial Court facilitates communication and enables joint leadership of the Trial Court by the Chief Justice of the Trial Court and the Court Administrator.

More (/orgs/executive-office-of-the-trial-court)

District Court (/orgs/district-court)

The District Court Department hears a wide range of criminal, civil, housing, juvenile, mental health, and other types of cases.

More (/orgs/district-court)

Boston Municipal Court (/orgs/boston-municipal-court)

The Boston Municipal Court Department serves the City of Boston, and handles both criminal and civil matters.

More (/orgs/boston-municipal-court)

Juvenile Court (/orgs/juvenile-court)

The Juvenile Court Department oversees civil and criminal matters statewide involving children including youthful offender, care and protection, and delinquency cases.

More (/orgs/juvenile-court)

Massachusetts Court System (/orgs/massachusetts-court-system)

The Massachusetts court system consists of the Supreme Judicial Court, the Appeals Court, the Executive Office of the Trial Court, the 7 Trial Court departments, the Massachusetts Probation Service, and the Office of Jury Commissioner.

More (/orgs/massachusetts-court-system)