In the
Indiana Supreme Court

In the Matter of Administrative Rule 17 Emergency Relief for Indiana Trial Courts Relating to the 2019 Novel Coronavirus (COVID-19).

Supreme Court Case No. 20S-CB-123

Order Suspending Jury Trials

The public health emergency continues. The threat of exposure from any in-court proceeding during these conditions, even when conducted under strict protocols, is high. And any exposures from such proceedings contribute to prolonging the emergency. So while the charge to carry on our full system of justice is clear and strong, we must all do our part, where and how we can, to slow the spread. We must take drastic measures we hoped would not be necessary. **Accordingly, the Court now ORDERS as follows:**

1. **No in-person jury trials may be held until March 1, 2021.**
2. For purposes of
    a. Indiana Criminal Rule 4(A) and 4(C), and
    b. early-trial demands filed under Indiana Criminal Rule 4(B) **before the date of this order**,

    the tolled period shall be calculated **from the date of this order through March 1, 2021,** and shall then be subject to congestion of the court calendar or locally existing emergency conditions for good cause shown.
3. For purposes of Indiana Criminal Rule 4(B) early-trial motions filed **after the date of this order and before March 2, 2021**, the motion shall be deemed to have been made **on March 1, 2021** and shall be **further subject to** congestion of the court calendar or locally existing emergency conditions for good cause shown.

All other court proceedings and operations must be conducted in accordance with the directives of this Court's November 10, 2020 Order on Continued Emergency Actions and the guidance previously issued concerning safely conducting court operations and mitigating in-court exposures.

Done at Indianapolis, Indiana, on 12/14/2020.

Loretta H. Rush
Chief Justice of Indiana

All Justices concur.