



Berrien County Trial Court

Mabel Johnson Mayfield, Chief Judge ~ Carrie Smietanka-Haney, Administrator
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AMENDED ORDER – Berrien County Trial Court Response to COVID-19


In accordance with the Michigan Supreme Court Administrative Order 2020-19, the Berrien County Trial Court may begin holding jury trials when the court moves into Phase 3 of re-opening operations.

MSC AO 2020-19 indicates that any court proceeding with jury trials “shall begin holding jury trials using trial standards approved by the State Court Administrative Office.” As of this date, those standards have not yet been provided by the SCAO. Additionally, in accordance with the court’s prior order regarding jury trials dated June 1, 2020 all jury pools until the week of August 17th have been canceled. Thus the court updates its order regarding jury trials as follows:


Jury trials for all divisions of the court may begin the week of August 17, 2020.

The presiding judges in coordination with trial court administration will limit the number of jury trials per day to accommodate all social distancing requirements in effect at that time.

All dates are subject to further review by the Chief Judge.



Hon. Mabel Mayfield
Chief Judge, Berrien County Trial Court



Date