IN THE IOWA DISTRICT COURT IN AND FOR THE SIXTH JUDICIAL DISTRICT

SUPPLEMENTAL ORDER III	)	
	)	**MISC. NO. _____**
PROVIDING DETAILED PROCEDURES	)	
	)	
DUE TO COVID - 19 VIRUS.	)	

Based on the Iowa Supreme Court's recent Supervisory Orders, I am entering the following order applicable to proceedings in the Sixth Judicial District to supplement the execution of that order:

1. Court Administration will be collecting all felony cases where speedy trial has been demanded. We will then re-schedule them beginning **July 13**, but not stack too many so that, if the crisis is lessened, we can try those cases in a reasonable manner. Judges who have specially assigned criminal cases impacted by this policy shall consult with Court Administration about acceptable new dates.
2. Judges who have specially assigned a civil case with a trial date before **August 3,** 2020, cases impacted by this policy shall consult with Court Administration about acceptable new dates.
3. We will be holding all civil commitment hearings by telephone or, where possible, video conference.
4. We are developing forms for waiver of in-person court hearings, including Rule 2 initial appearances, and consents to appearance by video and/or conference call to avoid jailed inmates having to appear in court. Jailed inmates will not be brought to court for probation revocation initial appearances or arraignments as a matter of course. Counsel shall attempt to resolve any bond review issues informally prior to any in-court hearings being set. The Supreme Court has approved accepting written guilty pleas and sentencings in felony cases. Arrangements may be made for video conferencing in special circumstances or telephone appearances for pleas/sentencing with victim impact statements. Those should be coordinated with Court Administration.
5. Priority in criminal case processing shall be given to those in jail especially where there is some possibility that the defendant may be released.
6. Attorneys and their clients will not be attending Case Management Conferences (CMCs). Prosecutors and Defense attorneys are responsible to consult about resolution of their cases and report electronically as directed by their presiding judge.
7. Default hearings in family law cases will be re-set to **June 15** or after. Non-defaulting parties may request temporary orders in lieu of their Request for Relief.

8. Temporary hearings in family law cases shall not be held in person, but shall be done by telephone or other electronic means. The parties shall attempt to conference each other in prior to contacting the judge assigned to the case.
9. Judges should be liberal in allowing requested continuances and not defaulting or issuing warrants for parties requesting last-minute continuances citing health concerns.
10. CINA and Termination of Parental Rights trials will not be held in person. In an appropriate case, a judge has discretion to take testimony by telephone or by video-assisted means. Delinquency trials, except where a child is held in detention should be continued. Review hearings for children in residential placement shall be by telephone or video conferencing. They may also be handled as *ex parte* reviews. The Supreme Court will be circulating more guidance.
11. The Court will authorize arrest by citation for all Driving Offenses other than OWI, attempts to elude and any felonies. Orders approving arrest by citation or promises to appear will be authorized upon request for serious misdemeanors and below, except for Domestic Abuse or OWI.
12. As a general rule, any civil hearing set for one hour or more will be re-set, subject to a judge's discretion to hear a case by telephone or video conferencing. A judge may designate a hearing as an "Emergency Matter," within the meaning of Paragraph 19 in the Chief Justice's "COVID-19 Impact" Order of March 17, 2020.
13. Child Support Recovery Unit (CSRU) hearings shall be held by telephone whenever possible. However, a judge should still be available during CSRU's regularly scheduled docket.
14. **Family Law pretrial conferences are cancelled until further notice. A recovery plan is anticipated when trials are up and running again.**
15. **Chief Justice Christensen and Chief Court Administrator Todd Nuccio have confirmed that it is not the Court's intent that judges be allowed to hear cases at home while the litigants are brought to the courthouse to then call the judge and reporter. Judges may hear a case from home if it can be verified that all parties will be able to appear by phone. Steps are being investigated to streamline this process.**
16. This Supplemental Order will, no doubt, be supplemented.

This ORDER is in effect until rescinded.

Clerks to notify county sheriff, county attorneys, all judges/magistrates, LCA, Public Defender, County Bar Associations.

Dated this 29th day of April, 2020.

/S/

PATRICK R. GRADY, CHIEF JUDGE
SIXTH JUDICIAL DISTRICT OF IOWA