

**Informal Summary of Chief Justice Order 20-016\***  
**May 15, 2020**

- A. All courts:
1. Must continue to conduct, with social distancing requirements:
    - a. Trials necessary to comply with speedy trial requirements;
    - b. In-custody juvenile delinquency adjudications; and
    - c. Proceedings defined as Category 1 and 2 essential proceedings (e.g., civil commitment hearings, protective order applications, certain juvenile dependency and delinquency proceedings, temporary guardianships and conservatorships, and specialty court proceedings).
  2. May conduct, **if** sufficient staff are available and social distancing requirements are met:
    - a. Proceedings defined as Category 3 essential proceedings (e.g., TROs, certain family law matters and juvenile dependency proceedings); and
    - b. Motion hearings that do not require witness testimony.
- B. In courts where the Governor has authorized Phase One reopening status, courts also may conduct, on and after **June 1** and **if** sufficient staff are available and social distancing requirements are met:
1. Bench trials; and
  2. All other court proceedings, **except** jury trials and FED first appearances and trials.
- C. In courts where the Governor has authorized gatherings of at least 50 persons in one location, courts also may conduct, on or after **July 1** and **if** sufficient staff are available and social distancing requirements can be met:
1. Jury trials in all criminal and civil cases; and
  2. FED first appearances and trials **if** no applicable moratorium is in effect.
- D. In courts where the Governor has not yet authorized Phase One reopening status, operations continue under Level 3 restrictions.
- E. Jury trials must be held in the courthouse or alternative physical location. All other proceedings may be held remotely, with the Presiding Judge determining the mode of trial. When any part of a proceeding is held in-person, the proceeding must comply with social distancing and other safety requirements. The presiding judge may require that certain persons wear masks in the courtroom and must encourage their use where court operations are conducted.

\* For details, including a complete list of essential proceedings defined as Category 1, 2, and 3, please refer to CJO 20-016 at <https://www.courts.oregon.gov/courts/Pages/coronavirus.aspx>