

STATE OF SOUTH DAKOTA

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IN CIRCUIT COURT

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COUNTY OF BROOKINGS

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THIRD JUDICIAL CIRCUIT

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Civ. 20-2

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IN RE THE ADMINISTRATION OF
THE THIRD JUDICIAL CIRCUIT

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ADMINISTRATIVE ORDER #2
RE: COVID-19 PANDEMIC RESPONSE

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Pursuant to the March 19, 2020 South Dakota Supreme Court ORDER PROVIDING FOR THE OPERATION OF THE COURT SYSTEM DURING THE COVID-19 PANDEMIC, a copy of which is attached, the Honorable Gregory J. Stoltenburg, Presiding Judge of the Third Judicial Circuit, enters the following administrative order:

IT IS HEREBY ORDERED that the county commissions are authorized to close doors or limit access to specific county government offices during business hours as they deem appropriate, but cannot close access to the public for entry into the courthouse for judicial functions;

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that although most court proceedings are open to spectators, persons not directly involved in the proceeding as a party, witness, or victim will be encouraged to stay away from the courthouse to minimize the number of people gathering and potentially spreading COVID 19;

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that the Court will conduct hearings via ITV or phone whenever possible, or continue jury trials as necessary, to minimize the number of persons required to gather in the courthouse;

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that Judges and court staff shall adopt in court practices and schedules to encourage social distancing and smaller groups of participants and spectators; and

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that signage be posted at the courthouse entrance that encourages the use of telephonic or online services, with applicable phone numbers and website information for Unified Judicial System offices; and

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that this Order shall continue in effect, unless modified, extended, or terminated by the Presiding Judge, or superseded by the South Dakota Supreme Court.

Dated this 19th day of March, 2020.

BY THE COURT:

Gregory J. Stoltenburg,
Presiding Circuit Judge, Third Circuit

ATTEST:

