

IN THE FIFTH JUDICIAL DISTRICT OF IOWA

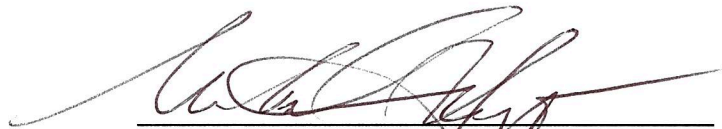
IN RE: PRELIMINARY HEARINGS IN
POLK COUNTY

ADMINISTRATIVE ORDER 2020-27

As previously ordered in Administrative Order 2020-26, “[a]ll preliminary hearings shall continue to be conducted by in-person hearing consistent with current practices.” While this directive remains in effect, the court implements the following procedures to afford the county attorney additional time in which to file a trial information and obviate the need for a preliminary hearing, with the hoped-for result of less hearings and reduced traffic flow within the courthouse campus while restrictions on gatherings and physical distancing are in effect:

1. All preliminary hearings, whether the defendant is in or out of custody, shall be scheduled 25 days from the date of initial appearance. The court specifically finds that good cause exists to extend the scheduling for both in-custody and out-of-custody preliminary hearings, as otherwise required by Iowa Rule of Criminal Procedure 2.2(4)(a), in light of the current response by governmental authorities and the Judicial Branch to the COVID-19 outbreak.

Dated this 1st day of April, 2020.


MICHAEL D. HUPPERT, CHIEF JUDGE
FIFTH JUDICIAL DISTRICT OF IOWA

Copies:

Chief Justice Susan Christensen, Iowa Supreme Court
Liaison Justice Edward Mansfield, Iowa Supreme Court
State Court Administrator, Todd Nuccio
Fifth Judicial District Judges, Staff and
Stakeholders by email
Posted on Judicial Branch Website

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POLK COUNTY, IA
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CLERK DISTRICT COURT