Rescinding COVID-19 Circuit Court Operating Plan

WHEREAS: On May 21, 2021, the Wisconsin Supreme Court terminated the following orders: (1) In re the Matter of Jury Trials During the COVID-19 Pandemic—Amended (S. Ct. Order issued March 22, 2020; Amended April 15, 2020); (2) In re the Matter of Filing of Court Documents in Circuit and Appellate Courts (Temporary Mailbox Rule) (S. Ct. Order issued April 13, 2020); (3) Interim Rule 20-02; and In re the Matter of the Extension of Orders and the Interim Rule Concerning Continuation of Jury Trials, Suspension of Statutory Deadlines for Non-Criminal Jury Trials, and Remote Hearings During the COVID-19 Pandemic (Amended Order) (S. Ct. Order issued October 1, 2020);

WHEREAS: The Wisconsin Supreme Court "no longer requires that personal masking, social distancing, and sanitizing court facilities be part of any plan for circuit court and municipal court proceedings approved by the chief judge of the applicable judicial district. Instead, circuit courts and municipal courts, with the approval of the applicable chief judge, shall make county-wide decisions about what is in the best interest of circuit court and municipal court operations, respectively. This includes deciding whether or not to continue to require masking, social distancing, and sanitizing court facilities on a county by county basis.";

WHEREAS: The Chippewa County Circuit Court has determined that there are minimal COVID-19 exposures and infection rates in Chippewa County, high levels of vaccination rates in vulnerable populations, and available options for requesting remote appearances that contribute to maintaining a safe environment for jurors and participants when holding hearings and trials in Chippewa County Circuit Court;

WHEREAS; On May 24, 2021, pursuant to the order of the Wisconsin Supreme Court dated May 21, 2021, the Presiding Judge of Chippewa County has requested approval to rescind the Chippewa County operational plans dated June 26, 2020 and amended on March 12, 2021;

THEREFORE: The COVID-19 Court Operational Plan and Jury Trial Plan Addendum for Chippewa County are hereby rescinded effective May 24, 2021.

Date: 5-24-2021

Honorable Maureen Boyle Chief Judge, 10th Judicial District