

APR 03 2020

STATE OF MINNESOTA

By Lindy Sanlon Deputy

DISTRICT COURT

COUNTY OF RAMSEY

SECOND JUDICIAL DISTRICT

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**ADMINISTRATIVE ORDER  
REGARDING CASE MANAGER  
REMOTE APPEARANCE IN CIVIL  
COMMITMENT CASES**

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**WHEREAS**, On March 13, 2020, Minnesota Governor Tim Walz declared a peacetime state of emergency due to the worldwide spread of COVID-19, also referred to as the Coronavirus; and

**WHEREAS**, on March 13, 2020, the President of the United States also declared a nationwide state of emergency due to the spread of COVID-19; and

**WHEREAS**, the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention has recommended several steps to help slow or prevent the spread of COVID-19. These steps include avoiding close contact with others, staggering work schedules, and limiting gatherings; and

**WHEREAS**, the Second Judicial District is taking necessary and reasonable steps to reduce potential exposure of persons to group settings; and

**WHEREAS**, on March 13, 2020, the Chief Justice of the Minnesota Supreme Court issued Administrative Order 20-8001, as amended on March 20, 2020, March 23, 2020, and March 26, 2020 (collectively "ADM20-8001"), directing Minnesota courts take action consistent with the Emergency Executive Order beginning March 16, 2020; and

**WHEREAS**, Paragraph 11 of ADM20-8001 provides that: "Other than those that require an in-person hearing as set forth in paragraphs 6-10 above, all other proceedings in all other case types shall be held by ITV or any other remote technology that permits the parties and attorneys to appear without being in the courtroom, or by review of the parties submissions without oral argument, to the extent feasible, practicable, and in the interests of justice."

**WHEREAS**, pursuant to Minn. Stat. § 484.60, subd. 3, the chief judge of the district has general administrative authority over the courts in the judicial district; and

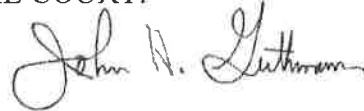
**WHEREAS**, the Second Judicial District has determined that providing for the remote appearance of case managers in Civil Commitment Court, is a necessary and reasonable step to reduce potential exposure of parties, attorneys, court staff, and the public:

**NOW, THEREFORE, IT IS HEREBY ORDERED:**

1. In Civil Commitment Court of the Second Judicial District, case managers may appear remotely to the extent practicable. At least 24 hours before the hearing is to take place, case managers are required to provide both the court and the Ramsey County Attorney a telephone number where they may be contacted for the hearing. Case managers must be available by telephone for the hearing. Case managers must respond when contacted by counsel or court administration.
2. This Administrative Order applies to all Second Judicial District Civil Commitment cases until April 22, 2020, unless extended or rescinded by a further court order.

Dated: April 3, 2020

BY THE COURT:



Guthmann, John (Judge)  
Apr 3 2020 4:04 PM

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John H. Guthmann  
Chief Judge, Second Judicial District