

**ADDENDUM #5 TO ST. CROIX COUNTY CIRCUIT COURTS' ORDER  
REGARDING TEMPORARY MEASURES:  
IN THE MATTER OF COVID-19 EMERGENCY PROCEDURES  
APPLICABLE TO ALL CASES**

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WHEREAS, the World Health Organization has declared a global pandemic of COVID-19 and Governor Evers has declared a public health emergency; and

WHEREAS, the Wisconsin Supreme Court has entered the following Orders: In re the Matter of Remote Hearings During the COVID-19 Pandemic on March 22, 2020 (as amended on April 15, 2020); In Re the Matter of Jury Trials During the COVID-19 Pandemic on March 22, 2020; and In the matter of an Interim Rule Re Suspension of Deadlines For Non-Criminal Jury Trials Due to the COVID-19 Pandemic: Public Hearing Notice on March 31, 2020; and

WHEREAS, the Wisconsin Supreme Court Order issued on March 22, 2020 (as amended on April 15, 2020) relating primarily to prohibiting "in-person" court appearances (with limited exceptions) and indicated that jury trials were addressed by separate order was entered indefinitely; and

WHEREAS, the Wisconsin Supreme Court Order issued on March 22, 2020 relating primarily to constitutionally / statutorily recognized speedy trial demands in criminal cases is set to expire on May 22, 2020; and

WHEREAS, the Wisconsin Supreme Court Interim Rule issued on March 31, 2020 relating primarily to non-criminal jury trials was entered indefinitely and;

WHEREAS, the Chief Justice Patience Roggensack has established a COVID-19 Task Force on April 28, 2020 to recommend a framework of criteria under which Wisconsin courts throughout the state can safely continue court proceedings, including jury trials; and

WHEREAS, the framework created by the COVID-19 Task Force, as may be amended and approved by the Wisconsin Supreme Court, will guide circuit courts in each county in creating written plans that particularize framework criteria to the facilities and resources of each county in order to promote safe court-related interactions; and

WHEREAS, the COVID-19 Task Force framework has been presented to the Wisconsin Supreme Court for its consideration; and

WHEREAS, the COVID-19 Task Force has provided general recommendations for reengaging in-person court appearances, reengaging jury trials, staffing, and facilities / equipment; and

WHEREAS, the St. Croix County Circuit Courts await the Wisconsin Supreme Court and / or Chief Justice orders / rules / recommendations as may be adopted with regard to the COVID-19 Task Force framework, while remaining committed to open access to our courts, service to the public, and protection of the health and safety of the litigants, judges, court staff and security, attorneys, jurors, other participants in court proceedings, and all other persons in court facilities; and

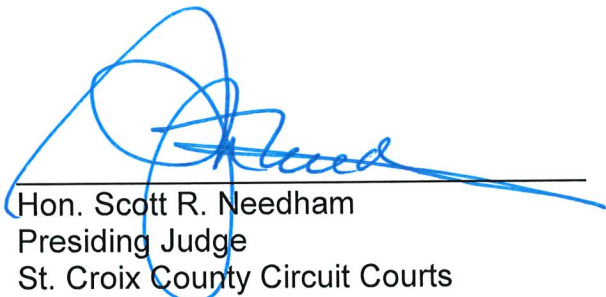
**WHEREAS**, St. Croix County Circuit Courts have established a COVID-19 Task Force to make recommendations for court facilities / equipment, staffing, reengagement of in-person court appearances , and reengagement of jury trials;

**NOW THEREFORE, IT IS ORDERED** effective Friday, May 22, 2020, the Order Regarding Emergency Temporary Measures and applicable guidelines entered by the St. Croix County Circuit Courts on March 16, 2020, as amended on March 23, 2020, as amended on March 25, 2020, and as amended on April 16, 2020, are modified as follows:

1. **All jury trials are suspended from May 26, 2020 through June 30, 2020.**
  - a. **Parties seeking a jury trial during the aforementioned dates may file a petition with the St. Croix County Presiding Judge for an emergency exception to this Order, which will be heard on an expedited basis.**
2. **The Wisconsin Supreme Court Order entered on March 22, 2020, as amended on April 15, 2020 prohibiting “in-person” court appearances (with limited exceptions) shall continue to control all court proceedings except as otherwise ordered by the Wisconsin Supreme Court, pending further Order of that Court.**
3. **All prior Orders entered by the St. Croix County Circuit Courts and the 10<sup>th</sup> Judicial District shall remain in effect except as modified by this Order.**

**IT IS FURTHER ORDERED** that this Order is effective during the declared Pandemic Health Emergency and until further order of the Wisconsin Supreme Court. This Order may be modified or terminated by court order, at any time, as circumstances may warrant.

Dated this 18<sup>th</sup> day of May, 2020.

  
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Hon. Scott R. Needham  
Presiding Judge  
St. Croix County Circuit Courts