

NOTICE RE: CRIMINAL DIVISION MAGISTRATE COURT EVIDENTIARY HEARINGS

Consistent with Executive Order 20-48, issued by the Honorable Eric J. Holcomb, Governor of Indiana, on November 13, 2020, the Indiana State Department of Health (ISDH) declared Lake County to a Covid-19 red as of November 18, 2020. Therefore, the Court finds that there is a local emergency and adopts the recommendations of Governor Holcomb, the ISDH and the Resuming Court Operations Task Force in establishing the following procedures for conducting evidentiary hearings on Petitions to Let to Bail, Motions to Suppress, and Petitions for Post-Conviction Relief beginning **November 30, 2020 until January 4, 2021:**

While counties are in the "red zone", all proceedings shall be held remotely. Due to complications inherent in the remote presentation of witness testimony and submission of exhibits, all evidentiary hearings scheduled before Magistrate Bokota and Magistrate Sullivan will be reset. In the few cases where the majority of evidence has already been received by the Court, counsel for the defense and the State will be contacted regarding whether the remainder of the evidence can be presented remotely, with waivers from the defendants, in order to complete those hearings.