



16<sup>th</sup> Judicial Circuit, Jackson County, Missouri

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Contact: Valerie Hartman  
816-881-3552  
Public Information Officer

**News Release**

Resumption of jury trials at the downtown courthouse delayed

The 16<sup>th</sup> Judicial Circuit Court was planning to resume jury trials at the Kansas City Courthouse on Monday, October 5. That date has now been postponed pursuant to Administrative Order 2020-166 as required by Missouri Supreme Court Operational Directives. A court employee has recently tested positive for COVID-19. The Court has in place and has implemented protocols and procedures to mitigate against spread.

Court operations at the Kansas City Courthouse have been moved back to Phase 1 under Missouri Supreme Court Operational Directives. Phase 1 limits the number of people gathered in a courtroom or other areas within the courthouse to 10. Courts are required to stay at each operational phase for a minimum of two weeks before moving to the next phase.

This change does not affect operations at other courthouses. The Eastern Jackson County Courthouse in Independence started summoning jurors on September 21. That courthouse is still operating at Phase 3 and jury trials will continue as scheduled.

The Court and the courthouses have never been closed during the pandemic, but operations have been modified in order to address health concerns.

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