OFFICE OF THE PROSECUTOR
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Nez Perce County

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For Immediate Release: Office Operations Changes Due to COVID-19
Date: March 16, 2020

Prosecutor Coleman Issues Temporary Changes to Office Operations

Today, Prosecutor Justin Coleman ordered limited changes to the operation of the Nez Perce County Prosecutor's Office. The overall function and prosecution of cases will continue normally. However, the office will be closed to the general public starting March 17th until further notice. The Prosecutor's office phone lines will still be open for calls. All meetings with victims and witnesses will be rescheduled when possible or will done via phone over the next few weeks. Prosecutors will continue to appear at all required Court hearings.

"We will continue to work closely with the Courts and defense bar to make reasonable accommodations in rescheduling non-essential court appearances. The criminal justice system is expected to function, and my office will process and prosecute criminal cases as usual," said Prosecutor Coleman.

On Friday, March 13th the Idaho Supreme Court issued an order regarding local Court operation. In the order, the Court limited "in person" appearance requirements for some proceedings, asked that reasonable attempts be made to reschedule criminal trials and lessened some timeline requirements, to name a few changes.

Criminal pre-trials and preliminary hearings that are scheduled for the week of March 16th to 20th are currently still scheduled to go forward. If individuals have any upcoming criminal or civil matters scheduled in Nez Perce County, they are encouraged to contact their attorney with additional questions.

This is an ongoing situation that may change rapidly. The Prosecutor's office will continue to update as new information becomes available.

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