DISTRICT COURT ADMINISTRATION

Second Judicial District

Cerro Gordo County Courthouse
220 North Washington
Mason City, IA 50401
(641) 494-3611
Fax: (641) 421-0994

Kurt L. Wilke
Chief Judge

Scott Hand
District Court Administrator
email:scott.hand@iowacourts.gov

August 20, 2020

Dear Story County Board of Supervisors,

Chief Judge Kurt Wilke and I respectfully request the board to consider alternate space for the District Court so jurors can safely be selected for cases tried to a jury. Judge Amy Moore has been working with the Story County Sheriff's office and they have identified two alternate locations suitable for selecting jurors in Story County during this COVID-19 Pandemic. As you know, we want to do our best to keep everyone safe while selecting and trying jury trials. Judge Moore and the Sheriff have determined that the Ames City Auditorium is the best location and Gates Hall would be the second best location. I understand the hourly rental rates for non-profit entities to be $106 per hour for the Ames Auditorium, and $60 per hour for Gates Hall.

Dates through the end of this calendar year where we currently have jury trials scheduled include:

September 14, 15, 29, 30
October 20, 21
November 3, 4
December 1, 2, 15, 16

Once a jury is selected the case will be moved back into the Story County Justice Center for the remainder of the trial. There may be instances where the jury is selected in one day and the consecutive day won't be needed. I state this as you may want to work cancelation terms into any contract that you may enter into.

We appreciate anything the county can do to secure adequate space to safely select juries for Story county cases.

Please feel free to contact me with any questions you may have. I thank you in advance for your consideration.

Sincerely,

/s/Scott Hand

Scott Hand
District Court Administrator

CC: Kurt L. Wilke, Chief Judge of the Second Judicial District