IN RE: BUSINESS OF COURT ORDER RE; PANDEMIC PROCEDURES AND RESUMING JURY TRIALS EFFECTIVE MARCH 2022. IN THE COURT OF COMMON
PLEAS FOR THE 26TH JUDICIAL
DISTRICT, COLUMBIA /MONTOUR
COUNTIES PENNSYLVANIA
(PA SUPREME COURT # 41-MM2020)

MV-1-2022

ORDER

AND NOW, this 9th day of February, 2022, IT IS HEREBY ORDERED AND DECREED as follows:

- 1. The Court Order of January 10, 2022, is hereby rescinded.
- 2. All civil and criminal jury selections and trials shall resume beginning with March 2022.
- 3. Litigants are ordered to appear as previously scheduled for the all other scheduled proceedings, including call of the trial list.
- 4. Remote proceedings shall continue to be utilized within the discretion of each judge and provided that there is no legal prohibition. For example, preliminary hearings, violation hearings, and sentencing hearings may continue to be held remotely with the consent of the parties.
- 5. The court continues to encourage all persons to observe and use health safety protocols as suggested by the CDC and other public health officials. Masks are optional but no longer required to be worn in courtrooms, hearing rooms, and common areas in court facilities.

- 6. The court continues to encourage court staff, counsel, litigants, and all others involved in the court process to permanently adopt efficient procedures developed during the court emergency and to discard inefficiencies that may have been insidiously engrained in the court culture.
- 7. IT IS FURTHER DIRECTED that this Order shall be posted in a public location in all Court facilities, shall be made available on the County and Court website.

COMPLIANCE HEREWITH IS DIRECTED.

BY THE COURT:

THOMAS A. JAMES