

ALASKA COURT SYSTEM
OFFICE OF THE ADMINISTRATIVE DIRECTOR
ADMINISTRATIVE BULLETIN NO. 28
(Originally issued as No. 86-5)

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SUBJECT: Additional Trial Site Standards

The following standards for "additional trial sites" are approved pursuant to Criminal Rule 18(c):

1. A community approved as an additional trial site must have an adequate facility available to house a jury trial.
 - a. The facility must have a room large enough to serve as a courtroom. The room must be able to accommodate placement of a sufficient number of chairs for court personnel (judge, in-court clerk, bailiff), the jury (seven for district court and thirteen for superior court), participants in the trial (prosecutor, defense attorney, defendant), public spectators (including space to accommodate the jury venire), and the witness box.
 - b. The facility must have an area where the judge, counsel and defendant may confer (and be electronically recorded) out of the presence and hearing of the jury. This area should be a separate room large enough for jury deliberations; however, the jury may deliberate in the courtroom if it will be available.
 - c. The facility must be adequate in other respects to house a jury trial, including having adequate acoustics (to permit an adequate record to be recorded), typing facilities and, if the trial site is proposed as a year-round site, adequate heating and inside toilet facilities.

2. A community approved as an additional trial site location must also have adequate community support facilities to service the trial participants.
 - a. Adequate housing must be available in the community to house trial participants and must be arranged in such a way to permit the bailiff to maintain security of the jurors from outside influence.
 - b. A facility must be available in the community to feed the participants in the trial three meals a day.
 - c. There must be adequate transportation to and from the community.
3. In considering whether to approve an additional trial site, the administrative director may also consider:
 - a. whether jury trials have been held in the community previously;
 - b. whether facilities and resources are available to ensure a defendant not released by the court remains in custody;
 - c. the strength of a desire of the community to hold local jury trials;
 - d. the financial impact on the court system of holding jury trials in the community; and
 - e. any factor affecting a defendant's right to a fair trial.
4. A community may be approved as an additional trial site for misdemeanors, but not felonies, if these standards are satisfied for a 6 person jury trial, but not 12 person jury trial. A community may be approved as an additional trial site for only a portion of the year if these standards are satisfied only for that portion of the year.

Dated: _____

In Effect Since: December 4, 1986

Arthur H. Snowden, II
Administrative Director

Approved by the Supreme Court:
December 4, 1986

Original Distribution:

Attorney General's Office
Public Defender Agency
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