

**PRACTICE DIRECTION NO 7 OF 2021:**

**RESUMPTION OF JURY TRIALS IN THE HOMECIRCUIT SUPERIOR CRIMINAL  
COURTS OF TRIAL**

**AND**

**RESUMPTION OF JURY TRIALS IN THE RURAL CIRCUIT SUPERIOR CRIMINAL  
COURTS OF TRIAL**

This Practice Direction is issued by the Honourable Chief Justice and applies to the Home Circuit Superior Criminal Courts of Trial and The Rural Circuit Superior Criminal Courts of Trial

**GENERAL**

1. This Practice Direction comes into effect on Monday, February 15, 2021 and will continue in effect until revoked or amended.
2. The Home Circuit Superior Criminal Courts of Trial ('HCSCCT') comprises the Supreme Court of Judicature (Criminal Division), the Circuit Court Division of the Gun Court, and the High Court Division of the Gun Court sitting at the Supreme Court of Judicature, Public Building East, King Street, Kingston.
3. The Rural Circuit Superior Criminal Courts of Trial ('RCSCCT') comprises the Supreme Court of Judicature (Criminal Division), the Western Regional Gun Court, the Circuit Court Division of the Gun Court, the High Court Division of the Gun Court sitting in any parish other than the parishes of Kingston and St Andrew.
4. This Practice Direction applies only to those criminal courts at the HCSCCT and the specified RCSCCT in which a jury may be empaneled for the trial of any matter.
5. The 'Health Guidelines Governing Access to all the Courts of Jamaica' dated May 27, 2020 except paragraph 10 continue to apply.

## **JURY TRIALS IN THE HCSCCT**

6. Practice Direction No. 2 of 2021, dated 5<sup>th</sup> January, 2021, dealing with the Resumption of Jury Trials in the Home Circuit Superior Criminal Courts of Trial is suspended until further notice.

## **JURY TRIALS IN THE RCSCCT**

7. Practice Direction No. 3 of 2021, dated 6<sup>th</sup> January, 2021, dealing with the Resumption of Jury Trials in the Rural Circuits Superior Criminal Courts of Trial is amended in so far as it relates to the resumption of jury trials in the parishes of Trelawny, St. Elizabeth, and St. Catherine.

### **JURY TRIALS - TRELAWNY**

8. Jurors summoned for the period **February 8, 2021 to March 5, 2021** are not required to attend and are excused without any risk of penalty.

### **JURY TRIALS – ST. ELIZABETH**

9. Jurors summoned for the period **March 8, 2021 to March 26, 2021** are not required to attend and are excused without any risk of penalty.

### **JURY TRIALS – ST. CATHERINE**

10. Jurors summoned for the period **January 7, 2021 to January 22, 2021** and the period **January 25, 2021 to February 12, 2021 ARE NOT** required to attend on **February 15, 2021** and are excused without any risk of penalty.

11. Jurors summoned for the period **February 15, 2021 to March 5, 2021 ARE NOT** to attend **UNTIL March 8, 2021**.

12. Jurors summoned for the period **March 8, 2021 to March 26, 2021 ARE TO** attend for duties.

**DATED THIS 14<sup>th</sup> DAY OF FEBRUARY 2021**

  
**BRYAN SYKES OJ, CD**

**CHIEF JUSTICE**