ADMINISTRATIVE ORDER # 2007-0010

## **RETURN OF EXHIBITS AFTER TRIAL**

Whereas, the 22<sup>nd</sup> Judicial District finds that its Court facilities lack the spatial capacity to store exhibits after trial, and that there is no mechanism for a court to insure chain of custody of exhibits, that **therefore** it is necessary that exhibits be returned to the arresting agency in criminal trials, or the party who tendered such exhibits in civil, domestic or any non-criminal case for their retention.

The Court will maintain all admitted or tendered photographs and paper exhibits, which are 8 ½ X 10 or smaller.

The Court will photograph all other exhibits prior to their release. These photographs will be maintained in digital format.

It is the responsibility of the charging agency or party to maintain the integrity and chain of custody for any exhibit returned to them.

The attorney, party or agency responsible for the admission of the exhibit shall contact either Ms Horn or Ms Brown or other clerk designated by the Court to arrange for pickup of the items within 7 business (seven) days after trial. A signed release will be required for return of the exhibits.

SO ORDERED on October 29, 2007

Sharon L. Hansen

Chief Judge: 22<sup>nd</sup> Judicial District

x.c. District Attorney/Public Defender/MCSO/COPD/Dolores County Sheriff local attorneys/Clerk of Court/Administrator

by n1, 10/29/07

court staffings