

**IN THE DISTRICT COURT FOR THE STATE OF ALASKA
THIRD JUDICIAL DISTRICT AT ANCHORAGE**

In the Matter of:

District Court Change of Plea
Continuances

Presiding Judge

3AN-AO-24-03

**ORDER RE: SETTING ANCHORAGE DISTRICT COURT
OUT-OF-CUSTODY CHANGE OF PLEA HEARINGS**

It has become common practice in Anchorage for some parties to request a change of plea hearing before a plea agreement is actually reached. When change of plea hearings are continued multiple times before a case is resolved, the court system's limited resources are burdened, which results in significant delays in court calendars. Rarely do these delays promote the interests of justice. Therefore, parties are required to have an accepted plea agreement, or a decision from the defendant that they plan to plead "open" before a change of plea hearing is set. This information must be relayed to the court on record or via an application for a change of plea.

IT IS SO ORDERED.

Dated at Anchorage, Alaska this 31st day of January, 2024.



THOMAS A. MATTHEWS
Presiding Judge
Third Judicial District

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