

**IN THE ERIE COUNTY MUNICIPAL COURT  
MILAN, OHIO**

2020 MI        ~~2020 MAR 16~~ A 8:27

ERIE COUNTY  
MUNICIPAL COURT

**TEMPORARY ORDER IN RESPONSE TO THE COVID-19  
(CORONAVIRUS) PUBLIC HEALTH CRISIS**

The Courts make the following Findings of Fact:

1. On March 9, 2020, Ohio Governor Mike DeWine issued Executive Order 2020-01D “Declaring a State of Emergency” in response to the growing COVID-19 public health crisis.
2. On March 11, 2020 the World Health Organization officially declared COVID-19 to be a global “pandemic” requiring “urgent and aggressive action” to control the spread of the virus.

Based upon these Findings of Fact, this Court has developed a continuum of flexible responses in case the public health crisis escalates. The continuum of responses is intended to protect public health, to maintain essential court functions, and to continue to protect the rights of all individuals subject to the authority of the Court.

**THEREFORE, IT IS HEREBY ORDERED:**

1. The Local Rules of Court may be temporarily adapted to allow Court flexibility, within Constitutional limits, in response to the public health emergency.
2. The Court security policies may be temporarily amended or supplemented to protect public health while maintaining essential court functions. These changes include, but are not limited to, the following:

- a. Effective immediately, only parties, attorneys, victims, and witnesses involved in presently scheduled cases shall be permitted through (and beyond) the security checkpoint. Individuals with pending business with the Erie County Prosecutors Office shall also be permitted through the security checkpoint. Exceptions may be made on a case-by-case basis. Requests for exceptions should be made at the Clerk's window or in advance by telephone.
  - b. Individuals who are sick should not enter the courthouse. Any individual with same day business before the Court who is ill should call the Court at 419-499-4689 for further instructions.
  - c. Only individuals (and their attorneys) with personal business before the Court (warrants, warrant blocks, operator's license forfeiture releases, driving privileges, probation, release of vehicles, fine and waiver payments, and those awaiting pending case paperwork following a court proceed) are permitted to congregate in the Courthouse lobby and at the Clerk's window.
3. The Court employment policy may be temporarily adjusted to maintain essential court operations and functions.
4. The Court authorizes the use of audiovisual devices and technologies for all actions and proceedings, to be determined in a case by case basis. At minimum, the Court will employ audiovisual devices and technology to reduce the need to transport defendants who are in pre-trial confinement, including for all preliminary hearings held on or after the date of this Order.
5. The public health emergency is hereby determined to be good cause for continuances in all proceedings, as deemed necessary on a case-by-case basis.

6. All pre-trial conferences scheduled in civil, criminal, and traffic cases shall be held by telephone until further notice, unless an individual case exception is made. Defense Counsel (or Defendant, if unrepresented) must call the Prosecutor at 419-499-8129 at the time scheduled for their pre-trial. All Defendants shall provide a valid telephone number to the Court.
7. All in person probation reporting is converted to telephone reporting until further notice. The Court's Probation Officer shall maintain authority to continue requiring in person reporting on a case-by-case basis.
8. The Court will have the lawful authority, within constitutional limits, to do and direct to be done all things necessary to ensure the orderly and efficient administration of justice for the duration of the declared public health emergency.

  
Carl J. Kamm III, JUDGE 3-16-2020