

MAR 13 2020

BETH I. MICHAEL, CLERK  
DEPUTY

IN THE COMMON PLEAS COURT  
JACKSON COUNTY, OHIO

**GENERAL ORDER:**

**COURT OPERATIONS UNDER  
THE EXIGNET CIRCUMSTANCES  
CREATED BY COVID-19**

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This Court issues this General Order in response to the recent outbreak of Coronavirus Disease 2019 (COVID-19) in Ohio and Nationwide. Due to the confirmed cases of COVID-19, the Governor of the State of Ohio, Michael DeWine, has declared a State of Emergency which amount other things limits indoor gatherings. The Governor's Declaration follows the Center for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) "Interim Guidance", recommending that all employer consider how best to decrease the spread of COVID-19.

Given the outbreak of cases of COVID-19 in Ohio, the severity of risk posed to the public, the CDC mandate, and the Governor's Declaration it is hereby Ordered that effective Friday, March 13, 2020:

1. All Civil and Criminal matters scheduled for trial before this court including any associated deadlines are continued for 30 days pending further order of the court.
2. All grand jury proceedings are continued except those cases that are necessary to protect the safety of the community pending further order of this court.
3. With regard to criminal matters, this court finds that based upon:
  - a. The reduced ability to obtain an adequate spectrum of jurors;
  - b. The risk to public health;
  - c. The availability of counsel and court staff;

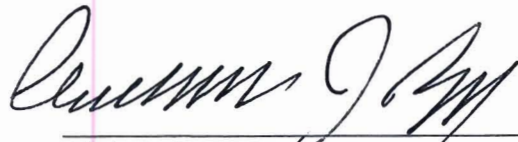
d. The Governor's Declaration of "A State of Emergency".

i. Therefore, this court finds that pursuant to R.C. 2945.72(H) that the court has the authority to sua sponte continue any criminal case set for trial within the next 30 days. State v. Talley 2008-Ohio-6807

4. The Court will continue to hear cases involving civil protection orders and civil stalking protection orders.
5. Case by case exceptions to the continuances provided by this order may be ordered by the court after consultation with counsel.
6. This Order does not affect the court's consideration of civil or criminal matters that can be resolved upon motion without oral argument.

The Jackson County Court of Common Pleas shall remain open. The public may continue to utilize the court's services while following all applicable public health guidelines.

This order will be reviewed not later than April 14, 2020, at which point the Court will amend, vacate or continue this Order.



Christopher J. Regan, Judge

Distribution: Local Bar Association via email  
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