

**IN THE COMMON PLEAS COURT OF LUCAS COUNTY
PROBATE DIVISION
JUDGE JACK R. PUFFENBERGER**

IN THE MATTER OF:	*	CASE NO. MS87-0135
ORDER IN RESPONSE TO COVID-19	*	
	*	
	*	JUDGMENT ENTRY
	*	

In response to the most recent CDC guidelines and in the interest of public health the Court makes the following Order which shall remain in effect until further order of the Court.

It is hereby Ordered, Adjudged, and Decreed that effective **Monday, July 12, 2021:**

1. In addition to continuing to perform court operations virtually and through the dropbox system, the Court will be allowing limited public access between the hours of 8:30-4:30 as specified below. Please consult the Court website before appearing as a public health occurrence could result in an immediate change
2. The Court will continue to accept fax-filings and email pleadings as originals, including signatures; however, initial case filings must be originals with cash, check, or money order for costs. The Court continues to strongly encourage the use of electronic methods of filing and faxing to reduce traffic, support social distancing, and for the safety and convenience of the public.
3. The Court will continue to provide drop-off and pick-up boxes for attorneys and self-represented parties who wish to continue to practice social distancing. The boxes will be located in the hallway just outside the Probate Court.
4. Accounts may be filed by fax, emailed or dropped off. No immediate reviews will be conducted.
5. All matters currently scheduled to take place by telephone or by Zoom will remain set via telephone or Zoom.
6. The Court will continue to use telephone and Zoom for pre-trials, status conferences and uncontested matters. If a matter is contested the judge or the magistrate will determine whether the matter should be heard in person, or via Zoom. All civil commitments will continue to be held via Zoom.
7. Adoption Petitioners will be given the option of whether to appear in- person or via Zoom for an adoption finalization. A limited number of guests will be allowed to attend in-person, however a Zoom link will be provided for any additional guests.
8. The court will offer on-line marriage applications only. The marriage license application and required procedures are available via the court website at www.lucas-co-probate-ct.org. Payments may be made via debit/credit cards.

It is so ORDERED.

DATE

JUDGE JACK R. PUFFENBERGER