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IN RE: TEMPORARY ORDER IN : **Common Pleas Court**
RESPONSE TO THE COVID-19
(CORONAVIRUS) PUBLIC : **Division of Domestic Relations**
HEALTH CRISIS : **Butler County, Ohio**
: **ENTRY**
: : : : :

The Judges of the Court of Common Pleas, Domestic Relations Division, make the following findings of fact:

1. The findings of fact related to the Covid-19 emergency remain in full effect and are incorporated herein by reference.
2. On April 2, 2020, Dr. Amy Acton, in her capacity as the Director of Ohio Public Health, issued an *Amended* Director’s Stay at Home Order. This Order extended the previous stay at home order until 11:59 p.m. on May 1, 2020.
3. On April 16, 2020, Governor DeWine announced his plan for a phased re-opening of the state economy. On April 27, 2020, Lt. Governor Husted unveiled plans for Responsible Restart Ohio.
4. On April 27, 2020, The Supreme Court of Ohio, in Case No. 2020-0547, issued an Entry which enumerated general health and social distancing protocols that would need to be followed, and issued further guidance in a letter to the courts on May 7, 2020.
5. As the COVID-19 virus continues to spread and impact Court operations, the health and safety of all Court employees and the community remains at risk.

THEREFORE, IT IS HEREBY ORDERED:

- 1) The period of reduced dockets, motions, and contested proceedings, which began under the March 19, 2020 Journal Entry & Administrative Order, shall be extended until further Order. The Court, in its discretion, may conduct hearings on a case by case basis in situations that require immediate attention.
- 2) The Court remains open with restrictions, pursuant to prior Orders and Notices.
- 3) The March 27, 2020, the Tolling of Time Requirements order issued by The Supreme Court of Ohio indicates the time requirement imposed by the rules of the Court shall remain tolled until further order. The April 10, 2020 Order excepting those tolling orders as to Objections to a magistrate’s decision or motion to set a magistrate’s decision aside remains in full force and effect.
- 4) **Effective immediately**, all persons entering the Court premises, including courtrooms, shall wear a mask covering their nose and mouth. Full masks obscuring the entire face, or otherwise obscuring their identity, will not be permitted. The hearing officer may, in their discretion, permit removal of masks for purposes such as giving testimony.

5) Anyone entering the building may be subject to health screenings, including a temperature check with a touch-free thermometer. Entrance into the premises is permitted based on results. Anyone denied entrance is responsible for contacting the Court at (513) 887-5338, to determine the next scheduled hearing date and any other pertinent information regarding their case, and insure that the Court has their mailing address.

6) Anyone on Court premises shall observe social distancing measures, remaining 6 feet apart from staff and other members of the public. The Court shall continue to conduct regular disinfecting and social distancing measures and requirements.

7) Further, the Court herein expressly reserves the right and full authority to further extend the time suspensions set forth herein, for a greater period of time, to include the duration of the public health crisis and public emergency.

8) This "Temporary Order" is ordered to be distributed to the Supreme Court of Ohio, Ohio Judicial Conference, Butler County Clerk of Courts, Butler County Bar Association, Cincinnati Bar Association, Warren County Bar Association, and posted to the website of this Court and entrance to the Court.

This entry is effective May 11, 2020.

IT IS SO ORDERED.

Barbara Schneider Carter, Administrative Judge
Butler County Court of Common Pleas
Division of Domestic Relations
Butler County, Ohio