

LICKING COUNTY MUNICIPAL COURT ANNOUNCEMENT RE: COURT OPERATIONS

The Licking County Municipal Court announces today, April 30, 2020, that it will continue under the modified operations plan implemented by the entry journalized on March 24, 2020 in response to the Covid-19 pandemic until further notice. The Court takes its guidance from public health officials and the recent extension to May 31 of the “stay at home” order issued by Governor DeWine. Services to the community will be provided in a fashion designed to safeguard the health and welfare of individuals with business before the Court.

As a reminder, the Court’s hours of operation are from 8:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m., Monday through Friday. All visitors to the Newark Municipal Building are required to use the hand sanitizer provided at the security checkpoint before entering the building. Court security officers may inquire whether an individual has any symptoms consistent with the covid-19 virus. Anyone displaying symptoms will be denied entrance. The Court encourages all contact to be made via phone, fax, email, or written correspondence whenever possible.

Pending criminal, civil, small claims, and eviction cases will be continued with written notice to the parties and counsel. Criminal and traffic arraignment sessions have been cancelled and rescheduled (with the exception of defendants incarcerated at the Licking County Justice Center) with written notice to be sent to all defendants. Pre-trial conferences will continue to be held as telephone conferences.

The Court has received a grant from the Ohio Supreme Court and will be upgrading its ability to conduct remote hearings on a limited basis whenever feasible. An announcement will be made when any changes are implemented in this regard.

New actions in forcible entry and detainer (evictions) and in the Small Claims division will not to be accepted by the Clerk of Court until further notice in conformity with direction from Chief Justice O’Connor of the Ohio Supreme Court. The Court understands the frustration those wishing to file such actions have and every effort will be made to resume normal procedures at the earliest opportunity.

Further information can be found on the Court’s official website www.lcmunicipalcourt.com or by calling the Clerk of Court at **(740) 670-7800**.