No. 0297 P. 1/2

FILED WOOD COUNTY, OHIO

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SIXTH DISTRICT COURT OF APPEALS CINDY A. HOFNER. CLERK

IN THE COURT OF APPEALS OF OHIO SIXTH APPELLATE DISTRICT

DECISION AND JUDGMENT

Decided: JUN 01 2020

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

This matter is before the court sua sponte. On March 17 and 18, 2020, this Court issued two temporary orders in response to the State of Emergency declared by Governor Mike DeWine with respect to COVID-19 (the Coronavirus).

In its March 18 Order, this Court ordered that until further notice, due to COVID-19, any case which had been previously scheduled for oral argument would instead be submitted to the Court for determination without oral argument. Further, in all cases where oral argument had been requested, but not yet scheduled, the case would be set for determination without argument. In both instances, if the Court converted an oral

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argument case for submission without argument, the Court provided parties the opportunity to file a motion seeking leave to have the case scheduled for oral argument.

The Court has continued to monitor and review the response of state, federal, and local agencies, as well as courts throughout the state, with respect to the continued COVID-19 pandemic. Consistent with that ongoing review, the Court hereby modifies its oral argument practice promulgated in the March 18 Order as follow.

Effective immediately, the Court will proceed with oral argument via Zoom, or comparable video or telephonic platform, in all cases scheduled by the Court for oral argument beginning June 17, where the parties requested oral argument in compliance with App.R. 21 and 6th Dist.Loc.App.R. 9. Once the parties have been notified that their case has been set for argument, the parties will be contacted by the Court's Assistant Court Administrator, who will provide the parties with instructions for using Zoom or the comparable platform during arguments, as well as a schedule for conducting a test session prior to argument.

After the parties have been notified of the date and time of their argument, either party may file a waiver of argument within 7 days of notification. Waivers will not be accepted after that time. The argument date will be firm; the Court will not entertain requests to reschedule arguments absent extraordinary or exigent circumstances.

Gene A. Zmuda, P.J.