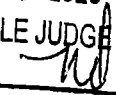


IN THE COURT OF COMMON PLEAS OF ASHLAND COUNTY, OHIO
JUVENILE AND PROBATE DIVISIONS

FILED
DAMIAN J. VERCILLO

JUDGMENT ORDER

MAR 20 2020
JUVENILE JUDGE
BY: 

The Court has considered the following:

1. On March 9, 2020, Ohio Governor, Mike DeWine, ordered a State of Emergency for Ohio regarding the Coronavirus/Covid-19 public health crisis.
2. Since then, the State government has taken various actions to control the spread of the virus.
3. The Center for Disease Control, state authorities, local authorities and medical experts have issued guidelines as to how to take precautions to reduce potential exposure and spread of the virus. One recommendation is to limit exposure between staff and the public.

By the following Orders, the Court attempts to minimize the effects of the current emergency, ensure safety of its staff and the public, and continue to perform the essential tasks of the Court. To that end, the Court makes the following Orders:

1. With regard to both the Ashland County Juvenile Court and the Ashland County Probate Court, the following applies:
 - A.) All persons are subject to screening before entrance may be allowed. The Court may refuse admittance to anyone.
 - B.) No one shall be allowed entrance if any of the following apply:
 - i.) The person is ill
 - ii.) The person has a fever
 - iii.) The person has travelled outside the country within the last thirty (30) days
 - iv.) The person or anyone in the person's family has been quarantined within the last thirty (30) days
 - v.) The person has been diagnosed with Covid-19
 - vi.) The person or someone in the person's family has been exposed to anyone diagnosed with Covid-19, quarantined or travelled out of the country within the last thirty (30) days

2. With regard to Ashland County Probate Court, the following will apply:

- A.) The Court will continue to issue marriage licenses. However, applicants for a marriage license must make an appointment.
- B.) All contested matters will be continued for a minimum of thirty (30) days and will be rescheduled.
- C.) All minor name change hearings will be rescheduled.
- D.) Attorneys with pending matters should contact the Court prior to the hearing to determine how the matter will proceed.
- E.) The Court may appoint guardians on a limited basis pursuant to Section 2111.02(B)(1), Ohio Revised Code, and conduct a full hearing at a later date.
- F.) The Probate Court will accept filings as follows:
 - i.) By mail
 - ii.) By fax at (419) 281-5699
 - iii.) By email at slb@zoominternet.net
 - iv.) If any person needs to make filings in person or contact the Court in person, then an appointment shall be scheduled by calling 419-282-4325.

3. With regard to the Ashland County Juvenile Court, the following applies:

- A.) All non-essential hearings shall be continued for a minimum of thirty (30) days and shall then be rescheduled.
- B.) Hearings in the Juvenile Court shall be limited to critical essential functions only which include the following (which is subject to change):
 - i.) Shelter care hearings
 - ii.) Detention hearings
 - iii.) Ex parte emergency orders
 - iv.) Petitions for Juvenile CPOs
 - v.) Abuse/neglect/dependency adjudicatory and dispositional hearings
 - vi.) Any other matters as determined by the Court on a case by case basis

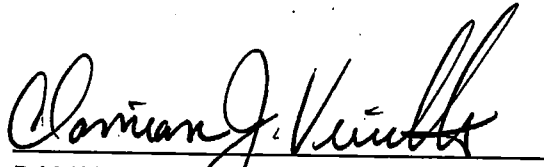
C.) The Juvenile Court will accept filings as follows:

- i.) By mail
- ii.) By fax at (419) 281-5699
- iii.) By email at njdver@zoominternet.net

- iv.) If filings must be made in person or if personal contact is necessary, then an appointment shall be scheduled by calling 419-282-4284.
 - D.) Parties shall not appear at pretrials but shall be available by telephone. Attorneys shall appear at pretrials unless excused by the Court.
 - E.) Any attorney or party with a pending case should contact the Court to determine whether the case will proceed.
4. With regard to both the Ashland County Juvenile Court and the Ashland County Probate Court:
- A.) Any hearing that goes forward shall be limited to attorneys, parties and witnesses only. No one shall bring family members or friends to a hearing.

By these Orders, the Court is attempting to ensure the safety of all persons and also maintain the Court's operations within constitutional limits.

IT IS SO ORDERED.


DAMIAN J. VERCILLO, JUDGE

Effective March 23, 2020 at 4:00 P.M.

FILED
DAMIAN J. VERCILLO

IN THE COURT OF COMMON PLEAS, ASHLAND COUNTY, OHIO
JUVENILE DIVISION

MAR 31 2020

JUVENILE JUDGE
BY nd

TEMPORARY ORDER WITH REGARD TO SUPERVISED AND RESTRICTED VISITS BETWEEN FAMILY MEMBERS AND CHILDREN IN THE TEMPORARY LEGAL CUSTODY OF THE ASHLAND COUNTY DEPARTMENT OF JOB AND FAMILY SERVICES

Whereas, the Governor of the State of Ohio has declared an emergency with regard to coronavirus in the State of Ohio;

Whereas, the Director of Health for the State of Ohio has issued a stay at home order for all Ohio residents effective until April 6, 2020;

Whereas, the President of the United States has recommended that social distancing continue through April 30, 2020;

It is hereby ORDERED that all in-person visits between children in the temporary legal custody of the Ashland County Department of Job and Family Services and their family member, which visits were restricted to the office of the Ashland County Department of Job and Family Services are temporarily SUSPENDED through April 6, 2020, or through any extension of the stay at home order by the Director of Health for the State of Ohio.

It is further ORDERED that in lieu of such in-person visits, parents shall be permitted to have contact with the children through remote means, being telephone, FACETIME, Skype, or any other technology, a minimum of once per week for a period of one hour. The Court encourages more communications on a more frequent basis, if possible. If the child is under five (5), the hour per week shall be broken down into smaller time increments which are appropriate for the child's age. The Department shall provide equipment for the remote contact, if a parent or the child does not have access to equipment to accomplish a remote visit. Further, the Court encourages and the Department shall facilitate and encourage other means of contact between parents and children, including permitting parents to provide their children with voice recordings of themselves singing, talking or reading to their child, and exchanging pictures, drawings and letters between child and parent. It is important, during this stressful period, that both parents and children have a means of communicating with each other and assuring themselves of the health of all of their family members.


It is SO ORDERED.


JUDGE DAMIAN J. VERCILLO

IN THE COURT OF COMMON PLEAS, ASHLAND COUNTY, OHIO
JUVENILE DIVISION

FILED
DAMIAN J. VERCILLO

APR 10 2020

JUVENILE JUDGE
BY 

**TEMPORARY ORDER WITH REGARD TO
COVID-19 AND GUARDIAN AD LITEM DUTIES**

Whereas, the Governor of the State of Ohio has declared an emergency with regard to coronavirus in the State of Ohio;

Whereas, the Director of Health for the State of Ohio has issued a stay at home order for all Ohio residents effective until May 1, 2020;

It is hereby ORDERED that the obligation of Attorneys/Guardians *Ad Litem* or CASA, to conduct in-person contact with persons involved in cases in this Court shall be excused until termination of the current stay at home order in Ohio. Attorneys/Guardians *Ad Litem*/CASA shall make attempts to have contact with children and their parents, or any other person relevant to the investigation, through remote means, including telephone, FACETIME, or video conferencing. If an Attorney/Guardian *Ad Litem*/CASA needs assistance facilitating such contact, he or she may contact the Court and request assistance. Nothing in this order shall prohibit an Attorney/Guardian *Ad Litem*/CASA from having in-person contact with any person involved in a case, if the Attorney/Guardian *Ad Litem*/CASA is comfortable doing so.

It is SO ORDERED.


JUDGE DAMIAN J. VERCILLO

IN THE COURT OF COMMON PLEAS, ASHLAND COUNTY, OHIO
JUVENILE DIVISION

FILED
DAMIAN J. VERCILLO

APR 10 2020

JUVENILE JUDGE

BY

**MEMORANDUM WITH REGARD TO PARENTING TIME DURING
COVID-19 STAY AT HOME ORDER**

Whereas, the Governor of the State of Ohio has declared an emergency with regard to coronavirus in the State of Ohio;

Whereas, the Director of Health for the State of Ohio has issued a stay at home order for all Ohio residents effective until May 1, 2020; and

Whereas, the Amended Stay at Home Order issued by the Ohio Director of Health permits persons to leave their home to travel pursuant to a Court order, including to transport children pursuant to a custody agreement.

Parents who are subject to parenting time orders issued by this Court shall continue to follow those orders, absent good cause for not doing so. Parents are encouraged to communicate frequently about the health and safety of their children and to permit free and unimpeded communication between the children and the parent who is away from the children at any point. Despite the fact that schools are not presently in session, parents shall continue to use the school schedule for the children in determining vacation and holiday parenting time.

It is SO ORDERED.


JUDGE DAMIAN J. VERCILLO