

FILED
CLERK OF COURTS
COMMON PLEAS COURT
WASHINGTON COUNTY, OHIO
2020 MAR 19 PM 3:45
WASHINGTON CO. OHIO

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Case No. *20 MISC 15*

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Judge Mark Kerenyi

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IN RE: ORDER IN RESPONSE TO THE
COVID-19 (CORONAVIRUS)
PUBLIC HEALTH EMERGENCY

The Washington County Common Pleas Court, General Division, makes the following Findings of Fact:

1. On March 9, 2020 Ohio Governor Mike Dewine issues Executive Order 2020-01D “Declaring a State of Emergency” in response to the growing COVID-19 public health emergency.
2. On March 11, 2020 the World Health Organization officially declared COVID-19 to be a global “pandemic” requiring “urgent and aggressive action” to control the spread of the virus.
3. On March 11, 2020 the first “community transfer” positive case of COVID-19 in the State of Ohio was confirmed.

Based upon these Findings of Fact, the General Division of the Court of Common Pleas has developed protocols in response to this public health emergency. These protocols are intended to protect public health, maintain essential court functions, and continue to protect the rights of all individuals subject to the authority of the Court.

THEREFORE, IT IS HEREBY ORDERED:

1. The Local Rules of Court may be temporarily modified to allow Court flexibility, within Constitutional limits, in response to the public health emergency.

2. Court policies may be temporarily adjusted to maintain essential court operations and functions.

3. The Court authorizes the use of audiovisual devices and technologies for all actions and proceedings.

4. The Court has determined the public health emergency is a good cause for continuances that waive speedy trial time. These continuances will be decided on an individual case basis by the trial judge.

5. This Court will have the lawful authority, within Constitutional limits, to do or direct to be done all things necessary to ensure the orderly and efficient administration of justice and public safety for the duration of the declared state of emergency.

6. The Temporary Court Procedures filed on March 13, 2020 remain in effect until further order of the Court.

ENTER AS OF DATE OF FILING:



Judge Mark Kereny

Date: March 19, 2020