

IN THE COURT OF COMMON PLEAS, GENERAL DIVISION 2020 MAR 23 PM 1:03
MEDINA COUNTY, OHIO

FILED
DAVID B. WADSWORTH
MEDINA COUNTY
CLERK OF COURTS

IN RE: COURTHOUSE OPERATIONS)
UNDER EXIGENT CIRCUMSTANCES) JOINT ADMINISTRATIVE ORDER
CREATED BY COVID-19)

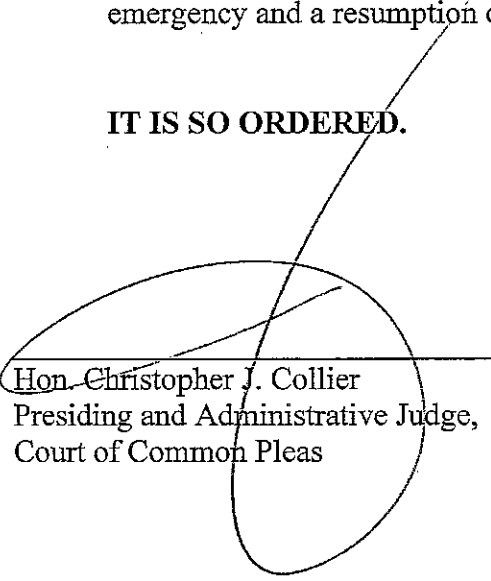
The Judges of the Medina County Court of Common Pleas, General Division, hereby issue a Joint Administrative Order in response to the public health emergency created by the outbreak of Coronavirus Disease 2019 (COVID-19). There are multiple confirmed cases of COVID-19 in the State of Ohio, in response to which the Governor of the State of Ohio, Michel DeWine, has issued and Executive Order declaring a state of emergency, which, among other things, limits large indoor gatherings. Local officials at the county and city level have followed suit. A "Stay at Home" order has been issued by the Governor effective March 23, 2020.

Given the severity of the risk posed to the public, the CDC mandate, and Governor's Declaration, it is hereby ordered that effective, Monday, March 23, 2020:

1. All jury trials in civil and criminal cases are hereby suspended until May 4, 2020, or until further order of the court.
2. In all Common Pleas General Division civil matters that are currently set and affected by this order, counsel and any pro se parties shall contact the courtroom of the assigned judge prior to the currently scheduled date to obtain a future court date and time.
3. All civil and criminal matters scheduled before any judge or magistrate in the Court of Common Pleas, General Division, and any associated deadlines are continued at the discretion of the assigned judge for a minimum of thirty (30) days pending further order of the Court, except the following:
 - a. Criminal arraignments for incarcerated defendants;
 - b. Proceedings involving incarcerated defendants at the assigned judge's discretion;
 - c. Civil stalking protection orders;
 - d. Temporary restraining orders;
 - e. Search warrants, and;

- f. Other exceptions may be made, on a case-by-case basis, by the judge in consultation with counsel of both parties.
4. With regard to criminal matters, due to the effect of the above public health recommendations on the availability of counsel and court staff to be present in the courtroom, and the court's reduced ability to obtain the adequate spectrum of jurors, the continuances implemented by this Joint Administrative Order, are subject to R.C. 2945.72(H), "Extension of Time for Hearing or Trial". The Courts specifically find the public health interests are paramount and the ends of justice are best served by this Joint Administrative Order.
 5. Video and telephonic hearing and conferences shall be utilized to the extent possible.
 6. This Joint Administrative Order does not affect the Court's consideration of civil or criminal motions that can be resolved without oral argument.
 7. The Medina County Courthouse shall remain open until further Order of the Court. Court staff will be available. The Court permits and encourages fax filings in all matters so as to discourage travel to the courthouse. The fax number is 330-764-8454. The public is encouraged to follow all applicable public health guidelines while utilizing court services.
 8. When the emergency subsides, the Court shall enter an order declaring an end to the emergency and a resumption of normal operations.

IT IS SO ORDERED.



Hon. Christopher J. Collier
Presiding and Administrative Judge,
Court of Common Pleas



Hon. Joyce J. Kimbler, Judge
Court of Common Pleas