

COMMON PLEAS COURT
MARION CO., OHIO

2020 MAR 18 PM 1:37

JERONICA WYLLIAGE
CLERK OF COURTS

IN THE COURT OF COMMON PLEAS FOR MARION COUNTY, OHIO
GENERAL DIVISION

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

On March 9, 2020, Ohio Governor Mike DeWine issued Executive Order 2020-01D declaring a "State of Emergency" as result of the COVID-19 (Coronavirus) public health crisis.

On March 11, 2020, the World Health Organization (WHO) declared COVID-19 to be a global pandemic requiring "urgent and aggressive action" to control the spread of the virus.

In light of the current health crisis, the undersigned judges now find that the following orders are not only reasonable, but also necessary to protect public health.

Effective immediately and until this order is rescinded, **IT IS HEREBY ORDERED, ADJUDGED, AND DECREED** that:

1. The Marion County Courthouse will remain open during regular business hours (7:30 am – 4:30 pm), but entry into the courthouse shall be restricted to those persons seeking to enter for the essential business of the Court, including but not limited to the following: the undersigned judges and their staffs; the employees of the Marion County Adult Probation Department; the Clerk of this Court and her staff; any parties, victims, witnesses, and attorneys who are required to personally appear for pending cases that are scheduled for trial and/or hearing before the court; persons who are under the supervision of this Court while on Community Control Sanctions ("probation") or Pretrial Release and who are required to report in person to meet with a probation officer; persons seeking to file Petitions for Civil Stalking Protection Orders; persons needing to go to the Office of the Clerk in order to file time-sensitive documents; law enforcement officers; media.
2. No person who has been diagnosed with COVID-19, who has had contact with someone diagnosed with COVID-19, or who has been asked by any doctor or health professional to self-quarantine shall be permitted to enter into the Marion County Courthouse.

3. All persons seeking to enter into the Marion County Courthouse shall be subject to a health and security screening which will include the taking of their temperature, and no persons having a temperature above 100.4 degrees will be permitted to enter.
4. ~~Many of the persons who normally work inside the courthouse on a day to day basis~~ (including but not limited to the staffs of the undersigned judges, the staff of the Marion County Adult Probation Department, and the staff of the Clerk of Court) will be allowed to work remotely to the extent possible while still ensuring the effective administration of justice and the protection of the public.
5. The undersigned judges will grant the requested continuance of any case that is scheduled to proceed to trial before this Court when said request is made by joint motion of the parties. Continuances requested by only one party will be considered on a case by case basis, but the Court will likely grant and/or order continuances when finding that a continuance is reasonable and necessary to protect the public health.
6. The local rules of this Court may, if necessary, be suspended or adapted to allow the Court more flexibility as may be necessary during this public health emergency.
7. The Court authorizes and will utilize audio and video devices when necessary and appropriate in order to conduct certain hearings by phone or by teleconference.
8. Nothing in this Order will impact the Court's consideration of matters that can be resolved upon motion and without trial and/or hearing.
9. The Court will have the lawful authority, within Constitutional limits, to do and direct to be done all things necessary to ensure the orderly and efficient administration of justice in Marion County for the duration of the declared public health state of emergency.

IT IS SO ORDERED.



JUDGE JASON D. WARNER



JUDGE WARREN T. EDWARDS