

KNOX COUNTY COURT OF COMMON PLEAS, MOUNT VERNON, OHIO 43050

IN THE COURT OF COMMON PLEAS  
KNOX COUNTY, OHIO  
RICHARD D. WETZEL, JUDGE

FILED  
KNOX COUNTY  
COURT OF COMMON PLEAS  
2020 MAY -5 AM 11:36  
CHRISTY MILLIGAN STATION  
CLERK OF COURTS

IN RE:  
COVID-19 VIRUS AND ALL MATTERS INVOLVING IN COURT PROCEEDINGS  
TEMPORARY EMERGENCY COURT OPERATIONS PROTOCOL ORDER II

JOURNAL ENTRY ESTABLISHING  
TEMPORARY EMERGENCY COURT OPERATIONS PROTOCOL  
FOR COVID-19 RISKS

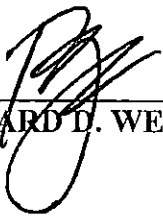
The matter of public health considerations and responses to the COVID-19 virus, and current declarations of the President of the United States, and the Governor of the State of Ohio, are before the Court this 30th day of April 2020. This Temporary Emergency Court Operations Protocol Order II supplements the prior Orders of this Court, including the Journal Entry dated the 13<sup>th</sup> day of March 2020. In order for the Court to assist all state and local agencies in maintaining public health and safety; and to assist our local law enforcement and healthcare community in preserving all available resources; and to assure the protection of the Constitutional rights of all individuals subject to the jurisdiction of this Court; upon the Court's own motion, the following Temporary Emergency Court Operations Protocol is hereby adopted as a Temporary Emergency Order effective immediately:

**IT IS ORDERED**, that all persons reporting for in Court proceedings shall be directed by the bailiff to appropriate seating to allow for sufficient distance between individuals in accordance with current health practices and orders of the Ohio Department of Health. No unrestricted access shall be permitted for non-Court employees in any area of the Common Pleas Court General Division.

The Court has made additional accommodations for seating with appropriate safe distance between participants, and the Court has restricted access to essential persons only. Facial covering may be worn by any juror, attorney, witness, or other court personnel, in their discretion. All persons shall observe appropriate and recommended health and sanitation practices during their participation in the proceedings.

This Order shall continue as a Temporary Emergency Order, for the duration of the declared public health emergency, and until rescinded or modified by this Court.

**IT IS SO ORDERED** this 30 day of April 2020.

  
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RICHARD D. WETZEL, JUDGE