

IN THE STOW MUNICIPAL COURT  
SUMMIT COUNTY, OHIO

MUNICIPAL COURT OF  
2020 APR 17 A 9 22

IN RE: COURT OPERATIONS DURING COVID-19 ) MISC. CASE NO. 2201  
STATE OF EMERGENCY )  
) ORDER  
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On March 9, 2020, Ohio Governor Mike DeWine issued an Executive Order declaring a state of emergency for the state of Ohio based upon the Covid-19 pandemic.

On March 13, 2020, President Donald Trump declared a state of emergency for the United States of America.

Based upon the state of emergency, until the end of the period of the state of emergency as declared by the Governor or further order of the court, the court orders as follows:

1. Court business hours will be from 8:00 a.m. until 2:00 p.m.
2. The court and all individuals in the court shall abide by all social distancing protocols ordered by the governor and the state of Ohio and any subsequent modifications to said protocols.
3. The arraignment procedure shall be modified as necessary to comply with this order and the aforementioned protocols to minimize health risks while maintaining court functions and the rights of individuals before the court.
4. The state of emergency is deemed a finding of good cause for any continuance deemed necessary by a judge or magistrate.

5. All jury trials are suspended.
6. Inmates and prisoners shall not be transported to the court other than for offenses of violence, felonies and outstanding bench warrants, unless expressly authorized by the court.
7. Prosecutors, attorneys and defendants shall attempt to conduct all pre-trial hearings electronically and shall promptly advise the court of the results of any such hearings.
8. All civil matters that are not continued shall be conducted via telephone or video conference.
9. Parties are encouraged to submit all civil filings via the court's e-filing portal.
10. Parties are encouraged to submit all criminal and traffic filings in an electronic format approved by the Clerk of Courts, fax or by mail.
11. All community control meetings shall be conducted by telephone or video conference.
12. Thursday afternoon Stride Court appearances are suspended, however, all Stride participants are to remain in contact with the court and its agents, continue all treatment plans and report for testing when ordered.
13. All evictions, garnishment hearings, small claims and miscellaneous civil hearings are continued.
14. Weddings will not be scheduled.
15. Any civil motion scheduled for hearing shall be submitted on the briefs of the parties.
16. The court is closed for public visits.

17. Only court employees, law enforcement officers, parties and witnesses will be permitted to enter the court.
18. The court will comply with all aspects of the Supreme Court Tolling Order and Am. Sub. H.B 197. The court will continue to decide cases that have been fully briefed and submitted. The court retains the authority to issue an order varying from the Supreme Court Order and Am. Sub H.B. 197 when necessary and appropriate.
19. All in person court programs are suspended.
20. Criminal and traffic defendants charged with minor misdemeanors are encouraged to participate in their arraignment via Skype. The procedure is outlined on the court's website (Stowmunicourt.com).
21. Parties requesting continuances are encouraged to utilize the electronic continuance form on the court's website (Stowmunicourt.com).
22. Persons entering the courthouse, including employees are encouraged to wear a mask or other face covering, per the recommendation of the governor.



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KIM R. HOOVER, Presiding Judge

cc: Judge Lisa L. Coates  
Amber Zibritosky, Clerk of Courts  
Rick Klinger  
File