



For Immediate Release

April 29, 2020

***Summit County Common Pleas Court General Division
Plan for Addressing COVID-19 – Update***

Summit County, Ohio: Judge Amy Corrigan Jones, Administrative Judge of the Summit County Common Pleas Court General Division, announced the Court's most recent, updated COVID-19 response plan this afternoon.

The Court has been proactive in its response to maintain a safe work environment for court employees and the public and in addressing the issues raised in the Ohio Director of Health's Stay at Home Orders.

Effective today, the Summit County Common Pleas Court General Division issued the following Order:

1. All trials are suspended up and through May 29, 2020, with the exception of State vs. Stanley Ford. This timeframe may be extended if deemed necessary and appropriate.
2. Inmates (other than Stanley Ford) shall not be transported from the Summit County Jail to the Summit County Courthouse up and through May 29, 2020, unless authorized by the Administrative Judge. This timeframe may be extended if deemed necessary and appropriate.
3. All scheduled criminal and civil matters, including mediations, shall be conducted via video/telephone conference, unless authorized by the Administrative Judge, up and through May 29, 2020. This timeframe may be extended if deemed necessary and appropriate.
4. No in person appearance shall be conducted by any judge, attorney or party, without prior approval by the Administrative Judge, up and through May 29, 2020. This timeframe may be extended if deemed necessary and appropriate.
5. All probationers shall report via telephone/video conference, unless authorized by the Administrative Judge, up and through May 29, 2020. This timeframe may be extended if deemed necessary and appropriate.
6. All arraignments shall be conducted via video conference up and through May 29, 2020, unless:

- a. As otherwise ordered by the Administrative Judge; or
 - b. As determined by the Administrative Judge as necessary and appropriate; or
 - c. Defendant and counsel have made arrangements as authorized by the Court for an alternative hearing.
 - d. This timeframe may be extended if deemed necessary and appropriate.
7. All visitation with any inmate at the Summit County Jail shall be conducted via video/telephone conference up and through May 29, 2020, unless authorized by the Administrative Judge.
 8. Sheriff sales are hereby SUSPENDED up and through May 29, 2020. This timeframe may be extended if deemed necessary and appropriate.
 9. All foreclosures, evictions and any judgment relating to real property shall be suspended up and through May 29, 2020, unless authorized by the Administrative Judge. All filing deadlines imposed on any party or interested party pertaining to any foreclosure or judgment relating to real property shall be tolled up and through May 29, 2020. This timeframe may be extended if deemed necessary and appropriate.
 10. All individuals entering the building shall be subject to having a health assessment, including his/her temperature taken. No one exhibiting signs of illness, including a temperature of 100.4 degrees, should be admitted or allowed to stay.
 11. All individuals entering the building shall wear a mask while present in the General Division.
 12. The General Division and all individuals herein shall continue to function under current social distancing protocols as ordered by the Governor of Ohio and should the Governor order further modifications; all individuals within the courthouse shall abide by said protocols.
 13. At no time in the General Division, shall there be more than 10 individuals in any courtroom, office, conference room, or other space that is considered to be confined, as determined by the Administrative Judge. The only exception shall be for purposes of a Judge's meeting, if approved by a majority of the judges.
 14. The General Division shall continue to 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 for the duration of the declared public health emergency.

Corrigall Jones said these actions have been taken as a proactive approach out of concern for the well-being of the employees and public.

“In an effort to protect our employees and the public, several safety guidelines have been put in place, including monitoring temperatures of people entering the building, increased disinfecting of high touch areas, increased availability of hand sanitizer and face masks for those entering the building, and germ shield placement throughout the Court and Probation Department in high contact areas,” explained Corrigan Jones.

Corrigan Jones continued, “We also will continue to limit the number of people coming into this courthouse in May, while maintaining operations by utilizing teleconferencing and work from home solutions for our many of our staff.”

“The Summit County Court of Common Pleas General Division continues to provide access to justice.” concluded Corrigan Jones.

Citizens with questions regarding a particular case or department should contact:

Jury Service Information	330.643.2270	Judge Alison Breaux	330.643.8160
General Civil Case Information	330.643.2288	Judge Christine Croce	330.643.2230
General Criminal Case Information	330.643.2267	Judge Amy Corrigan Jones	330.643.8534
Psycho-Diagnostic Clinic	330.643.2333	Judge Alison McCarty	330.643.5011
Pretrial Services	330.643.2245	Judge Kelly L. McLaughlin	330.643.2247
Arraignments	330.643.5092	Judge Kathryn Michael	330.643.2239
Mediation	330.643.8004	Judge Tammy O'Brien	330.643.2233
Adult Probation Department	330.643.7966	Judge Joy Malek Oldfield	330.643.8301
Court Executive Office	330.643.7960	Judge Susan Baker Ross	330.643.2238
		Judge Mary Margaret Rowlands	330.643.5014

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Contact: Susan Sweeney, Assistant Court Executive Officer
 330.643.7840
ssweeney@cpcourt.summitoh.net

SANDRA KURYI

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SUMMIT COUNTY
CLERK OF COURTS

**IN THE COURT OF COMMON PLEAS
GENERAL DIVISION
SUMMIT COUNTY, OHIO**

**MISC ORDER 2020 700
April 28, 2020**

**UPDATED EMERGENCY ORDER IN RESPONSE TO THE COVID-19
PUBLIC HEALTH CRISIS
APRIL 28, 2020**

Administrative Judge Amy Corrigall Jones, hereby makes the following Findings of Fact:

1. On March 9, 2020 Ohio Governor Mike DeWine issued Executive Order 2020-01D “Declaring a State of Emergency” in response to the growing COVID-19 public health crisis.
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. President Donald Trump proclaimed and declared a state of emergency for the United States of America on March 13, 2020.
4. The Summit County Court of Common Pleas General Division Judges addressed the threat of COVID-19 to the public health in Misc. Order 2020-700, filed on March 13, 2020, and incorporated and referenced herein.
5. On March 13, 2020, all trials were suspended for fourteen days up and through March 27, 2020, with the exception of State vs. Stanley Ford. This timeframe may be extended if deemed necessary and appropriate.
6. On March 13, 2020, the Court ordered that inmates shall not be transported from the Summit County Jail to the Summit County Courthouse for fourteen days up and through March 27, 2020. This timeframe may be extended if deemed necessary and appropriate.

7. On March 13, 2020, the Court ordered that all criminal matters with incarcerated individuals other than Stanley Ford shall be conducted via video conference in coordination with the Summit County Jail for fourteen days up and through March 27, 2020. This timeframe may be extended if deemed necessary and appropriate.
8. On March 13, 2020, the Court ordered that all civil matters shall be conducted by telephone or video conference for fourteen days up and through March 27, 2020. This timeframe may be extended if deemed necessary and appropriate.
9. On March 13, 2020, the Court ordered that all mediations shall be continued for fourteen days up and through March 27, 2020. This timeframe may be extended if deemed necessary and appropriate.
10. On March 13, 2020, the Court ordered that all probationers shall report via telephone for fourteen days up and through March 27, 2020. This timeframe may be extended if deemed necessary and appropriate.
11. To protect the public health by reducing the spread of COVID-19, Governor DeWine limited public gatherings to less than 50 persons as of March 16, 2020.
12. On March 16, 2020, the President of the United States recommended that public gatherings be restricted to no more than 10 persons.
13. On March 17, 2020, the Ohio Director of Public Health, Amy Acton, M.D. MPH, issued an order in accordance with President Trump's recommendations that public gatherings be restricted to no more than 10 persons.
14. On March 19, 2020, the Court issued Misc. Order 700 enumerating further restrictions in the General Division. That Order is incorporated and referenced herein.
15. On March 20, 2020, the Court issued Misc. Order 700 suspending all Sheriff Sales up and through April 24, 2020. That Order is incorporated and referenced herein.

16. On March 22, 2020, the Ohio Director of Public Health, Amy Acton, M.D. MPH, issued a “Stay at Home’ order. That Order is incorporated and referenced herein.
17. Both the United States District Court, Northern District of Ohio and the United States District Court, Southern District of Ohio have issued orders addressing the public health emergency in response to the spread of COVID-19. Those Orders are incorporated and referenced herein.
18. On April 2, 2020, the Ohio Director of Public Health, Amy Acton, M.D. MPH, issued a “Stay at Home’ order up and through 11:59 p.m. on May 1, 2020. That Order is incorporated and referenced herein.
19. On April 3, 2020, the Court issued Misc. Order 700 enumerating further public health protections in the General Division. That Order is incorporated and referenced herein.
20. On April 10, 2020, the Court issued Misc. Order 700 enumerating further public health protections in the General Division. That Order is incorporated and referenced herein.
21. On April 27, 2020, Ohio Governor Mike DeWine issued a plan to restart Ohio’s economy during the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic. Governor DeWine did not lift or modify Ohio’s Stay at Home order currently in effect. That Order is incorporated and referenced herein.
22. On May 4, 2020, certain environments may reopen if businesses are able to meet mandatory safety requirements for members of the public and employees.
23. Safe practices include requiring face coverings for all employees and recommending them for members of the public at all times, conducting daily assessments, maintaining good hygiene such as social distancing and sanitizing workplaces, and limiting capacity to meet social distancing guidelines.

24. Certain establishments are ordered to remain closed, including schools, daycares, dine-in restaurants, older adult daycares, senior centers, entertainment, recreation and gyms. Large gatherings of more than 10 people are still prohibited.

The Court has considered the guidance and orders of the Governor of Ohio, the President of the United States, the United States District Courts, the Chief Justice of the Ohio Supreme Court, Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, and local public health authorities to effectuate the public health goals and to serve the public.

In response to the public health emergency; recognizing current testing is insufficient/limited in Summit County and Personal Protective Equipment is not readily available in Summit County, to reduce the substantial health risks to the community; to maintain essential court functions, and to continue to protect the rights of all individuals subject to the authority of the Court,

THEREFORE, IT IS HEREBY ORDERED:

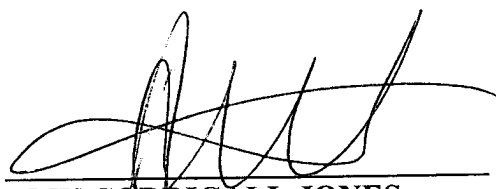
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14. The General Division shall continue to have the lawful authority, within constitutional limits, to do and direct to be done all things necessary to ensure the orderly and efficient administration of justice for the duration of the declared public health emergency.

IT IS SO ORDERED.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Amy Corrigan Jones', written over a horizontal line.

**AMY CORRIGALL JONES
ADMINISTRATIVE JUDGE
GENERAL DIVISION**