

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Akron Municipal Court

Harold K. Stubbs Justice Center

217 S. High Street, Suite 713

Akron, Ohio 44308 USA

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330-375-2186 (Office) / court@akronohio.gov

<https://www.akronmunicipalcourt.org>



SEVERAL AKRON MUNICIPAL COURT DEPARTMENTS TO CONTINUE OPERATING REMOTELY THROUGH JULY 31

Akron, Ohio, May 28, 2020 – Beginning in March 2020, the Akron Municipal Court has implemented several changes to procedures in response to the COVID-19 pandemic.

Effective today, the following modifications have been added to the previously established rules. The information below is categorized by various Akron Municipal Court divisions and/or the type of issue with additional messaging for all court users at the bottom:

Eviction and Small Claims Court

Eviction and Small Claims Court will operate remotely to the extent possible, through July 31, 2020.

No new eviction filings shall be filed unless accompanied by an affidavit, or certificate of counsel, that the subject premises are not a covered property subject to the Coronavirus Aid, Relief and Economic Security (CARES) Act, and, therefore, exempt from the moratorium.

Any pending eviction actions filed within the CARES Act moratorium shall be stayed until July 6, 2020 or until such time the required proof that the subject premises is not covered by the CARES Act, and, therefore, exempt is filed with the Clerk of Courts in each case respectively, whichever is sooner.

Any pending eviction action that is clearly filed in violation of the CARES Act from March 27, 2020 until such time the act expires shall be dismissed without hearing at the filing party's expense.

Jury Trials

All jury trials will be suspended until after July 31, 2020.

Open Court Hours

Open court hours for each Akron Municipal Court Judge will be suspended indefinitely.

Driving Privileges

Those who need to obtain driving privileges or renew driving privileges must contact the individual courts through email or phone.

Criminal

All criminal proceedings for each judge will be done remotely through July 31, 2020.

No in-person proceedings will be permitted except bench trials and suppression hearings as authorized by the Court.

Civil

Until further notice, filings will be accepted through the mail only.

Traffic Court

Traffic Court will operate remotely to the extent possible, through July 31, 2020.

Arraignment Court

Arraignment Court will operate remotely to the extent possible, through July 31, 2020.

Mediations

The Mediation Department will no longer hold in-person mediations on Saturdays. Our volunteer Supreme Court trained mediators will be holding mediation by video, telephone and e-mail. Mediations are still mandatory and parties are expected to take part in mediation.

For All Court Users

Before a court user wishes to visit the courthouse, he or she is encouraged to call the Court to ensure permission will be granted to enter the building.

If Defendants must appear in-person, masks must be worn and social distancing protocols must be followed.

A departmental directory was recently added to the Akron Municipal Court website to allow court users the ability to contact the appropriate party directly regarding their question(s). The directory can be found by visiting: <https://www.akronmunicipalcourt.org/contact/department-directory/>

The Akron Municipal Court serves the cities of Akron and Fairlawn; the townships of Bath, Richfield and Springfield; the Villages of Lakemore and Richfield; and that part of Mogadore in Summit County, Ohio. For more information about Akron Municipal Court services and programs, please visit: <https://www.akronmunicipalcourt.org>

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FILED

2020 MAY 27 10:11:55
IN THE AKRON MUNICIPAL COURT
SUMMIT COUNTY, OHIO

AKRON MUNICIPAL COURT
JIM LARIA
CLERK

JE#
4402
2020 MI

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

The Presiding/Administrative Judge of the Akron Municipal Court 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. Section 4024 of the Federal Coronavirus Aid, Relief and Economic Security (CARES) Act prohibits the filing of any eviction action for the nonpayment of rent by a tenant in a covered property for a period of 120 days with an additional 30 days for notice to vacate from March 27, 2020.

Based upon these Findings of Fact, the Akron Municipal Court has developed a continuum of flexible responses in case the public health crisis escalates. The continuum of responses is intended to protect public health, 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:

No new eviction filings shall be filed unless accompanied by an affidavit, or certificate of counsel, that the subject premises are not a covered property subject to the CARES Act, and, therefore, exempt from the moratorium.

Any pending eviction actions filed within the CARES Act moratorium shall be STAYED until July 6, 2020 or until such time the required proof that the subject premises is not covered by

the CARES Act, and, therefore, exempt is filed with the Clerk of Courts in each case respectively, whichever is sooner.

Any pending eviction action that is clearly filed in violation of the CARES Act from March 27, 2020 until such time the act expires shall be dismissed without hearing at the filing party's expense.

It is further ordered that this Journal Entry shall be filed in all pending eviction actions filed from March 27, 2020 to the date of this journal entry.

All previous Emergency Orders of the Court remain in effect.

IT IS SO ORDERED.

Nicole A. Walker

HON. NICOLE ANN WALKER
PRESIDING/ADMINISTRATIVE JUDGE,
AKRON MUNICIPAL COURT

AKRON MUNICIPAL COURT
JIM LARIA
CLERK
2020 FEB 27 PM 1:04

FILED

FILED

2020 MAY 27 PM 1:35
IN THE AKRON MUNICIPAL COURT
AKRON MUNICIPAL COURT SUMMIT COUNTY, OHIO
JIM LARIA
CLERK

2020 MI SE# 4403

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

The Presiding/Administrative Judge of the Akron Municipal Court 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. The Akron Municipal Court is located in the Harold K. Stubbs Building which has two working elevators.

Based upon these Findings of Fact, the Akron Municipal Court has developed a continuum of responses intended to protect public health, 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:

- All criminal proceedings for each judge will be done remotely through July 31, 2020. No in-person proceedings will be permitted except bench trials and suppression hearings as authorized by the Court.
- Traffic Court will operate remotely to the extent possible, through July 31, 2020.
- Eviction and Small Claims Court will operate remotely to the extent possible, through July 31, 2020.

- Arraignment Court will operate remotely to the extent possible, through July 31, 2020.
- If Defendants must appear in-person, masks must be worn, and social distancing protocols must be followed.

IT IS SO ORDERED.

Nicole Walker Digitally signed by Nicole Walker
Date: 2020.05.27 13:32:04 -04'00'

HON. NICOLE ANN WALKER
PRESIDING/ADMINISTRATIVE JUDGE,
AKRON MUNICIPAL COURT

AKRON MUNICIPAL COURT
JIM LARIA
CLERK
2020 MAY 27 PM 1:44

FILED