

**Important Court Information and Guidance
regarding COVID-19 – updated April 2, 2020**

The Ninth District Court of Appeals continues to serve the citizens of Lorain, Medina, Summit, and Wayne Counties during the COVID-19 public health emergency. The Court of Appeals remains open for business, the judges continue to consider and decide cases, and they are available to address emergency matters if they arise. Many of the Court's staff are teleworking, but the main office remains staffed with appropriate physical distancing measures

In line with the orders of Governor DeWine and the Tolling Order of the Chief Justice of the Ohio Supreme Court, *03/27/2020 Administrative Actions, 2020-Ohio-1166*, the Court will take the measures necessary to keep the public, attorneys, and our staff safe:

1. All mediations will be conducted remotely to limit contact but still allow the parties to use the Court's mediation process.
2. Original actions will continue to be handled consistent with the process outlined in Local Rule 10.
3. Briefs and motions must, as always, be filed with the appropriate clerk of court, and the clerks will continue to deliver those filings to the Court.
4. All cases scheduled for oral arguments have been submitted on briefs. Cases will be decided on the written briefs only, unless, pursuant to motion, oral argument is granted. If granted, oral arguments will be conducted remotely.
5. The main office of the Ninth District Court of Appeals is closed for public visits.
6. Many questions can be answered by visiting the Court's website at www.ninth.courts.state.oh.us. General questions can also be answered by calling (330) 643-2250.
7. Any questions regarding the operation of the clerk of court offices in the Ninth District should be directed to the clerk's office in that county.

All filing deadlines have been "tolled" until the date the period of emergency ends or July 30, 2020, whichever is sooner, pursuant to order of the Chief Justice of the Supreme Court of Ohio. Tolling Order, 2020-Ohio-1166. The Court will continue to decide cases that have been fully briefed and are ready to be submitted. The Court will also handle cases as usual unless a party, clerk of court, or court reporter, moves for a COVID-19-related extension of time pursuant to the Tolling Order. The Court will order that a case remain active if it is related to a situation that requires immediate attention. *Id.*