



FILED
SUMMIT COUNTY
JUVENILE COURT

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LINDA TUCCI TEODOSIO
JUDGE

IN THE COURT OF COMMON PLEAS
JUVENILE DIVISION
SUMMIT COUNTY, OHIO

IN RE: COVID-19

CASE NO: MS 21-4027

JUDGE LINDA TUCCI TEODOSIO

ORDER

The Court issues the following Orders in response to the COVID-19 pandemic. These orders are effective on May 3, 2021 and replace and supersede all prior orders used in response to the pandemic.

1. Regular Court Hours for the public are from 8:00 a.m. until 4:00 p.m.
2. While a return to face-to-face visits is preferred, attorneys who have been appointed as a Guardian ad Litem for a child and volunteers who have been appointed as a Court Appointed Special Advocate Guardian ad Litem (CASA GAL) may continue to have contact via electronic means when necessary. When scheduling face-to-face visits, GAL's should take into consideration whether the child or the child's placement are individuals who are part of a high-risk population and the vaccinated status of the GAL, child (if age appropriate) and placement. All GAL's shall abide by the orders of the Ohio Department of Health and Summit County Public Health including, but not limited to, physical distancing and the use of personal protective equipment (PPE) during face-to-face visits. CASA GAL's will be permitted to attend all trials and hearing via zoom at their option but may be required to appear in Court for their testimony at Trial.
3. Parties and attorneys shall appear personally for Trials and such other hearings as ordered by the Court. The ability to participate remotely via zoom will be offered to witnesses unless otherwise ordered by Court sua sponte or upon the motion of any party. Parties, attorneys and witnesses as well as court staff are required to maintain physical distancing. Except as noted herein, a mask covering the nose and mouth must be worn at all times. A Plexiglas barrier has been placed around each bench and witness stands to allow for the removal of masks by the jurist and witness while behind this barrier.
4. All individuals entering the Juvenile Court will be required to have their temperature taken. If an individual refuses to wear a mask, the jurist handling the case will be contacted to determine whether to proceed with or continue the hearing.
5. All pretrial hearings and all Review hearings in which there are no pending motions shall be held by telephone or zoom unless otherwise ordered by the Court sua sponte or upon the Motion of any party. Initial delinquency, unruly and traffic hearings will be held virtually unless otherwise ordered by the Court.

6. Court group programs will resume in person effective June 1, 2021 with the exception of the Parent Project which will resume in-person with the next session.
7. The Court will limit the number of individuals present at any hearing in accordance with mass gathering restrictions as set forth by the Ohio Department of Health and/or Summit County Public health. Once the limit has been reached, the Court will make provisions for virtual attendance for any individual who would otherwise be entitled to attend the hearing but for the mass gathering restrictions.
8. Except as noted herein, all pre-pandemic procedures shall resume.

IT IS SO ORDERED.



JUDGE LINDA TUCCI TEODOSIO 4-22-21