

**NOTICE REGARDING JUVENILE COURT OPERATIONS
DURING THE COVID-19 PANDEMIC**

Based upon the recommendations of the Center for Disease Control and the actions of Governor DeWine over the weekend, the Summit County Juvenile Court has decided to continue all non-essential, non-emergency hearings for the next four (4) weeks. This action is being taken to further social distancing and to prevent the spread of the virus as much as possible.

The following hearings will go forward as emergency and/or mandatory hearings:

1. Detention hearings for youth that have been held in detention or at Safe Landing
2. Shelter Care Hearings
3. Dependency, Abuse & Neglect Adjudicatory and Dispositional Hearings
4. Requests for Juvenile Protection Orders
5. Any felony delinquency or violent misdemeanor hearing, upon the request of the Prosecutor, due to a risk to community safety
6. Any hearing, upon written request of any party, because an immediate hearing is necessary to protect the best interests of a child
7. Hearings during which a child will be returned to a parent

Some of these hearings may be conducted by telephone, if the parties so agree. Further instructions as to how to access these call-in hearings will be provided to the attorneys and/or parties involved by email.

In lieu of scheduled Review Hearings, the parties are asked to provide written updates to the Court. The preferred means of providing these reports is by a written report to be filed with the Clerk. The preferred method of filing is via mail to 650 Dan Street, Akron 44310 or fax to 330-643-2987.

Trials and hearings other than those outlined above as mandatory and/or emergency hearings that are scheduled during the next four weeks will be continued by the Court. The Summit County Juvenile Court does plan to return to business as usual on April 13, 2020, however additional continuances may extend beyond the next four weeks depending on the status of the spread of the virus. The parties will be contacted regarding the rescheduling of these hearings once this crisis has passed.

Updates will be provided on our website at juvenilecourt.summitoh.net. The public can also call their assigned Court worker or 330-643-2900 for information.