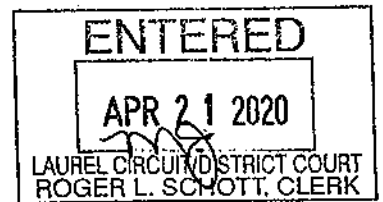


COMMONWEALTH OF KENTUCKY  
27<sup>TH</sup> JUDICIAL CIRCUIT  
KNOX AND LAUREL CIRCUIT COURTS  
DIVISION I



GENERAL ORDER OF APRIL 21, 2020 REGARDING DIVISION I  
CIVIL MOTION DOCKETS AND PROCEDURE FOR MAY 2020

\* \* \* \* \*

On April 14, 2020, the Supreme Court of Kentucky entered Amended Order 2020-22 which extended the court related COVID-19 restrictions through May 31, 2020. In response to Amended Order 2020-22, and in an effort to clarify this Court's civil motion dockets and civil motion procedures for May of 2020, the Court enters the following General Order:

1. This Order is limited to the civil court schedule and procedure for Division I of Knox and Laurel Circuit Court. This Order does not apply to any other division of the 27<sup>th</sup> Judicial Circuit.

2. Amended Order 2020-22 provides that “[w]ith the exception of emergency and time-sensitive matters . . . all civil and criminal dockets shall be canceled, unless a judge determines in his or her discretion that a matter requires prompt attention.”

3. In compliance with this Amended Order, this Court's civil motion dockets for the month of May 2020 will be limited to emergency and time-sensitive matters, or matters deemed to require prompt attention.

4. Any civil hearings or motions for the month of May 2020 will be conducted remotely by video or telephonic conference.

5. To schedule a hearing on a motion, the party making the motion or requesting a hearing shall notice the motion to all parties for the specific motion docket dates more fully described in the next paragraph. In the notice, the party filing the motion shall request a remote hearing by video or telephonic conference.

6. Any motions filed pursuant to paragraph five (5) above shall be noticed for a specific date and time. For Laurel Circuit Court, any motions shall be noticed for Friday, May 8, 2020, at 9:00 a.m. For Knox Circuit Court, any motions filed shall be noticed for Friday May 15, 2020 at 9:00 a.m. The Court again reiterates that there will not be in-person, courtroom hearings on these motions. Rather, the notice of hearing shall request a remote hearing.

7. When any motion is filed requesting a remote hearing, counsel shall contact Court staff to advise of the filing of the motion, and to obtain further instruction regarding the details and logistics of the remote hearing.

8. Parties and litigants should carefully consider the feasibility of a remote hearing before filing a motion during the month of May 2020. For example, if there are unrepresented litigants, it may be difficult to conduct a remote hearing. In such a case, the moving party should consider waiting for a subsequent motion docket, unless the matter requires prompt attention.

9. If a matter is already scheduled for hearing and is already on the motion docket for Friday, May 1, 2020, in Knox Circuit Court at 10:30 a.m., or for Friday, May 8, 2020 in Laurel Circuit Court at 9:00 a.m., the parties do not need to request a new hearing or re-notice those for hearing. The Court will review those

matters, and Court staff will contact the parties with further instructions regarding those hearings.

10. The schedule and procedures set forth above are limited to the time frame set forth in Kentucky Supreme Court Amended Order 2020-22, which governs through May 31, 2020.

11. Unless otherwise subsequently ordered by the Kentucky Supreme Court, this Court will assume that standard civil motion practice will resume on June 1, 2020, and that thereafter all civil matters will be conducted in accordance with the existing local rules of practice and procedure of the 27<sup>th</sup> Judicial Circuit. Therefore, any motions filed to be heard in June of 2020, or beyond, shall be in accordance with the standard rules of practice and procedure. However, if the Kentucky Supreme Court further restricts court operations beyond May 31, 2020, this Court will enter subsequent orders providing guidance to parties, attorneys and litigants.

12. *The Court again reiterates that this Order ONLY applies to Division I of the Knox and Laurel Circuit Courts.*

DATED this the 21<sup>st</sup> day of April, 2020.



GREGORY A. LAV  
CHIEF CIRCUIT JUDGE  
27<sup>TH</sup> JUDICIAL CIRCUIT