

2020 IR 130

IN THE COURT OF COMMON PLEAS  
DOMESTIC and JUVENILE DIVISIONS  
TRUMBULL COUNTY, OHIO

IN RE:

**ORDER DECLARING A JUDICIAL  
EMERGENCY AND CONTINUATION  
OF OPERATIONS of the COURT  
DUE TO COVID-19 PANDEMIC** : **GENERAL ORDER 20-06**

This Court issues this General Order in response to the recent outbreak of Coronavirus Disease 2019 (COVID-19) and related deaths in Trumbull County Ohio and throughout the State of Ohio and hereby extends the General Order 20-01 issued by this Court on March 13, 2020, unless modified herein.

WHEREAS, on March 9, 2020, the Governor of the State of Ohio, Michael DeWine, issued Executive Order 2020-01D and declared a State of Emergency which has been extended to May 1, 2020. The Director of the Ohio Department of Health, Dr. Amy Acton, also extended her Director's Stay at Home Order issued March 22<sup>nd</sup>, 2020 through 11:59 p.m. on May 1<sup>st</sup>, 2020.

WHEREAS, on March 11, 2020, the World Health Organization publicly characterized COVID-19 as a global "pandemic" requiring "urgent and aggressive action" to control the spread of COVID-19;

WHEREAS, on March 13, 2020, the President of the United States declared a National Emergency;

WHEREAS, this Court, in order to mitigate the spread of COVID-19 and comply with orders issued by the State of Ohio given the outbreak of cases of COVID-19 and deaths as a result in this County and the severity of risk posed to the public, and given the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention mandate, the Governor, the Director of the Ohio Department of Health orders, and President's declarations and orders, it is hereby ORDERED that:

(1) All civil domestic relations and juvenile matters including specialized dockets currently scheduled for hearings set before any Judge or Magistrate of this Court including any associated deadlines are hereby continued and shall be rescheduled pending further Order of the Court.

(2) All juvenile delinquency cases, juvenile traffic cases currently scheduled to be heard before any Judge or Magistrate of this Court, including any associated deadlines are hereby continued and shall be rescheduled pending further notice.

(3) The time period of the continuances implemented by this General Order will be pursuant to Am. Sub. H.B. 197 signed into law on March 27, 2020 by the Governor of the



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State of Ohio which immediately tolled, retroactive to March 9, 2020, all statutes of limitations, time limitations and deadlines in the Ohio Revised Code and the Ohio Administrative Code until the expiration of the Executive Order 2020-01D or July 30, 2020, whichever is sooner;

(4) Every person including employees, attorneys, litigants and the public shall consent to temperature screens upon entering Trumbull County Family Court. If a person refuses to consent to temperature screens that person shall be denied access to the Family Court Building.

(5) Case-by-case exceptions to the continuances provided herein may be ordered at the discretion of the Court after consultation with counsel;

(6) This ORDER does not affect the Court's consideration of civil or criminal motions that can be resolved without oral argument.

(7) This ORDER does not affect ex-parte filings, emergency orders, domestic violence, detention hearings, or shelter care hearings.

(8) All civil pre-trials may be conducted telephonically. The Plaintiff shall be responsible for instituting the conference call with all parties and the Court.


(9) All probation reporting will be done telephonically.


The Courthouse shall remain open for limited purposes during this state of emergency. Staff in both Clerk's offices will be available by telephone, mail will be received, and intake desks remain open for filings. The public is encouraged to continue utilizing court services while following all applicable public health guidelines, the Governor's order and Dr. Amy Acton's Order to prevent the spread of COVID-19.

Only those having essential business before the Court will be permitted in the courthouse.

This Order is issued due to the Emergency ORDER issued by the Governor of Ohio and the Stay at Home Order issued by Dr. Amy Acton.

All until further Order.

  
JUDGE SANDRA STABILE HARWOOD  
Administrative Judge Trumbull County  
Court of Common Pleas, Domestic and  
Juvenile Divisions  
Dated: April 13, 2020

  
JUDGE SAMUEL F. BLUEDORN  
Court of Common Pleas, Domestic  
and Juvenile Divisions

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**INSTRUCTIONS TO THE CLERK OF COURTS:** A copy of this order shall be served upon TCBA; Prosecutor's Office; Supreme Court of Ohio; Sheriff's Department; TCCSB; and Published on this Court's Website