

# **Continuing Operations in Ohio Courts Under Stay at Home Order COVID-19 Declaration of State of Emergency**

## **NOTICE**

Due to public health concerns regarding the COVID-19 pandemic, Ohio courts have continued operations on a limited basis based on the Ohio Department of Health Stay at Home Order and Governor Mike DeWine's Executive Order 2020-01D, Declaring a State of Emergency. Once the orders are canceled or COVID-19 stops being a threat to the state, Ohio courts will continue regular operations.

### **Guidance to Limited English Proficient Individuals Seeking Court Services**

#### **ACCESS TO THE COURTS**

Due to the coronavirus health emergency, courts will continue operations but may have some restrictions. Please call or visit your court's webpage before you physically visit the court.

(Local Phone Number and/or Website)

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Jury duty is cancelled today because of concerns about the coronavirus. For more information, please call or visit the court's webpage:

(Local Phone Number and/or Website)

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Due to the coronavirus health emergency, whenever possible, please stay at least **6 feet** away from other people at court. Please also wear a mask, cover your cough and sneezes with your arm, wash your hands often, and follow the latest Ohio COVID-19 and Center for Disease Control (CDC) recommendations:

Ohio COVID-19

<https://coronavirus.ohio.gov/wps/portal/gov/covid-19/home>

Center for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC):

<https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/prevent-getting-sick/prevention.html>

## Juvenile Court

### OPEN WITH RESTRICTIONS

Contact the juvenile court (local website) before your scheduled proceeding, as many trials and hearings have been postponed or continued to a later date. Cases that the court has deemed to be an emergency or an essential matter, such as child removal hearings and protection order requests, are still being heard.

The court will continue to hear juvenile protection order hearings, with one party present\* (ex parte). The court will also hear some full hearings (with both parties present\*) on juvenile civil protection orders. The paperwork for filing may be found on-line here (link):

(local website)

[http://www.supremecourt.ohio.gov/JCS/domesticViolence/protection\\_forms/juvenileForms/default.asp](http://www.supremecourt.ohio.gov/JCS/domesticViolence/protection_forms/juvenileForms/default.asp)

The court is using remote technology to conduct hearings where appropriate. Therefore, you may be asked to participate in your proceeding by phone or video. You will be instructed how to participate. An interpreter will be provided for you, if necessary.

*\*Unless the court has already approved, parties cannot bring friends or family members to in-person hearings except if they are serving as a victim advocate or as a person providing support to the victim in a civil protection order case.*

FOR MORE INFORMATION PLEASE CALL OR VISIT:

(Local Phone Number and/or Website)

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## **Probate Court**

### OPEN WITH RESTRICTIONS

Contact the probate court (local website) regarding potential changes to court hours and filing requirements to submit necessary documents for emergency guardianships, marriage license applications, adult protective services, civil commitments or mental health cases, and adoptions. The court is using remote technology to conduct hearings where appropriate. Therefore, you may be asked to participate in your proceeding by phone or video. An interpreter will be provided for you, if necessary.

FOR MORE INFORMATION PLEASE CALL OR VISIT:

(Local Phone Number and/or Website)

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## **Domestic Relations Civil Protection Orders**

### **OPEN WITH RESTRICTIONS**

Contact the domestic relations court (local website) before your scheduled proceeding, as many trials and hearings have been postponed or continued to a later date. The court will continue to hear emergency custody and civil protection order hearings with one party being present\* (ex parte) and some full hearings (with both parties present\*). The court is using remote technology to conduct hearings where appropriate. You may be asked to participate in your proceeding by phone or video. You will be instructed how to participate. An interpreter will be provided for you, if necessary.

The paperwork for filing a civil protection order may be found on-line here (link):

(local website)

[http://www.supremecourt.ohio.gov/JCS/domesticViolence/protection\\_forms/DVForms/default.asp](http://www.supremecourt.ohio.gov/JCS/domesticViolence/protection_forms/DVForms/default.asp)

*\*Unless the court has already approved, parties cannot bring friends or family members to in-person hearings except if they are serving as a victim advocate or as a person providing support to the victim in a civil protection order case.*

**FOR MORE INFORMATION PLEASE CALL OR VISIT:**

(Local Phone Number and/or Website)

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## **Municipal Court Temporary Criminal Protection Orders**

### **OPEN WITH RESTRICTIONS**

The court has postponed trials and hearings for traffic and non-violent misdemeanor cases. The court will still hear arraignments and requests for temporary criminal protection orders\*. The paperwork for filing may be found on-line here (link):

(Local website)

[http://www.supremecourt.ohio.gov/JCS/domesticViolence/protection\\_forms/DVForms/default.asp](http://www.supremecourt.ohio.gov/JCS/domesticViolence/protection_forms/DVForms/default.asp)

[http://www.supremecourt.ohio.gov/JCS/domesticViolence/protection\\_forms/stalkingForms/default.asp](http://www.supremecourt.ohio.gov/JCS/domesticViolence/protection_forms/stalkingForms/default.asp)

Hearings may be heard by telephone or by video conferencing. You will be instructed how to participate. You will be provided an interpreter, if necessary.

*\*Unless the court has already approved, parties cannot bring friends or family members to in-person hearings except if they are serving as a victim advocate or as a person providing support to the victim in a protection order case.*

Please contact your local court to get instructions about how to request a protection order during the health emergency.

(Local Phone Number and/or Website)

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## **Common Pleas Court, Civil Stalking Protection Orders**

### **OPEN WITH RESTRICTIONS**

Contact the common pleas court (local website) before your scheduled proceeding, as many trials and hearings have been postponed or continued to a later date. The court will continue to hear arraignments and civil stalking protection order hearings with one party being present\* (ex parte) and some full hearings (with both parties present\*). The court is using remote technology to conduct hearings where appropriate. You may be asked to participate in your proceeding by phone or video. You will be instructed how to participate. An interpreter will be provided for you, if necessary.

The paperwork for filing may be found on-line here (link):

[http://www.supremecourt.ohio.gov/JCS/domesticViolence/protection\\_forms/stalkingForms/default.asp](http://www.supremecourt.ohio.gov/JCS/domesticViolence/protection_forms/stalkingForms/default.asp)

*\*Unless the court has already approved, parties cannot bring friends or family members to hearings except if they are serving as a victim advocate or as a person providing support to the victim in a protection order case.*

**FOR MORE INFORMATION PLEASE CALL OR VISIT:**

(Local Phone Number and/or Website)

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