

**LUCAS COUNTY COURT OF COMMON PLEAS
JUVENILE DIVISION**



In the Matter of:

**TEMPORARY ORDER IN RESPONSE TO COVID-19 (CORONAVIRUS)
PUBLIC HEALTH EMERGENCY**

JOURNAL ENTRY

The Lucas County Court of Common Pleas, Juvenile Division (LCJC or Court), makes the following Findings of Fact Administrative Order.

Findings of Fact:

1. On March 9, 2020, Ohio Governor Mike DeWine issued Executive Order 2020-01D “Declaring a State of Emergency” in response to the growing COVID-19 (Coronavirus) public health emergency declared by the United States Health and Human Services Secretary, on January 31, 2020.
2. On March 11, 2020, the World Health Organization officially declared COVID-19 to be a global “pandemic” requiring “urgent and aggressive action” to control the spread of the virus.
3. On March 13, 2020, President Trump declared the Coronavirus pandemic to be a national emergency.
4. The Lucas County Court of Common Pleas, Juvenile Division, Administrative Judge has consulted with the Lucas County Commissioners, the Lucas County Sheriff, the Lucas County Health Commissioner, the Lucas County Emergency Management Agency, the Lucas County Telecommunications and Information Technology department, and other local, state and federal governmental agencies, including the Supreme Court of Ohio, regarding means available to prevent the spread of the COVID-19 virus while maintaining Court functions.

Based upon these findings, the LCJC Administrative Judge has developed a continuum of flexible responses in case the public health emergency escalates, and to be in effect until such time as the local governmental response to the COVID-19 has resulted in control of the spread of the virus or otherwise until further order of the Court. The continuum of responses is intended to protect public health, to maintain essential court functions, and to continue to protect the rights of all individuals subject to the authority of the Court.

It is therefore ***ORDERED, ADJUDGED and DECREED THAT:***

1. The local rules of the Lucas County Court of Common Pleas, Juvenile Division (LCJC or Court), may be temporarily adapted to allow Court flexibility, within Constitutional limits, in response to the public health emergency.
2. The LCJC's security policies may be temporarily amended or supplemented to protect public health while maintaining essential Court functions.
3. The LCJC's Employee Handbook, may be temporarily adjusted to maintain essential Court operations and functions.
4. The Court authorizes the use of telephones, cellular phones, audiovisual devices and technologies for all actions and proceedings.
5. The assigned Judge or Magistrate may consider the public health emergency as good cause for granting continuances on a case-by-case basis.
6. The Court will have lawful authority, within Constitutional limits, to do and direct to be done all things necessary to ensure the orderly and efficient administration of justice for the duration of the declared public health emergency.
7. Attorneys, Witnesses, Parties, and Security personnel who exhibit signs of illness shall notify the Court by telephone or email and shall not come into the courthouse or report for duty or court, unless specifically instructed to do so by the assigned Judge or Magistrate.
8. Court personnel, showing signs of illness shall notify their immediate Supervisor and not report to work, unless otherwise instructed to do so.
9. Court will work with security to determine a means to identify sick individuals who will be entering LCJC and take appropriate actions to ensure a health work environment.
10. The LCJC Clerk's Office shall conduct business with required personnel only, as determined

by the Administrative Judge, and may also determine to conduct the receipt of filings or other transactions via email or other additional means made available to the public.

11. The Court shall attempt to minimize the amount of travel and social interaction of parties, attorneys, witnesses, law enforcement personnel, and judicial personnel by continuing non-essential proceedings or conducting proceedings, as far as practical, by remote video or telephonic means (electronically.)
12. Any matters deemed not to require emergency or expedited hearings will be continued by the Court. Attorneys and parties will receive the new hearing date by mail. This applies to matters currently scheduled for hearing from the date of this order until June 1, 2020.
13. Judicial officers may file all orders electronically by email, serve orders by email notification, and use video and telephone conferencing in an effort to reduce the number of people who come into the Court each day.
14. Shelter care and detention hearings may be conducted using video or telephonic equipment.
15. All probation reporting will take place by phone.
16. All Juvenile Detention Center and Youth Treatment Center family visits will take place by phone.
17. All cases currently scheduled for Mediation, with the exception of safety plan mediations, are continued until after June 1, 2020. Notices of new mediation dates will be mailed to attorneys and parties.
18. When the public health emergency subsides, the Court shall enter an order declaring an end to the duration of the emergency and resumption of normal operations.
19. All payments normally taken in the Clerk's Office, will be made on line or by mail. All Court costs, fees, and restitution, may be paid on line at our website <http://www.co.lucas.oh.us/204/Juvenile-Court> or mailed by check or money order to the Clerk's Office 1801 Speilbusch Ave., Toledo, Ohio 43604. All Child Support payments may be made on line at <https://oh.smartchildsupport.com/> or mailed by check or money order to Ohio CSPC, P.O. Box 182372, Columbus, Ohio 43218-2394.
20. This "Temporary Order" shall be served on the Supreme Court of Ohio, Ohio Judicial Conference, Lucas County Court of Common Pleas, General Divisions, Toledo Bar Association, Lucas County Prosecutor's Office, Lucas County Public Defender's Office,

Lucas County Sheriff, Lucas County Board of County Commissioners, and the Lucas County Health Commissioner, Lucas County Children Services, and Lucas County JFS, CSEA.

It is so ORDERED.

Denise Navarre Cubbon
Denise Navarre Cubbon, Administrative Judge

3/17/2020
Date