

COURT OF COMMON PLEAS

2020 MAR 19 AM 10:50

CINDY MOLLENKOPF, CLERK
VAN WERT CO. OHIO

IN THE COURT OF COMMON PLEAS
OF VAN WERT COUNTY, OHIO

CASE NO. MISC. _____

TEMPORARY ORDER IN RESPONSE TO
CORONAVIRUS PUBLIC HEALTH CRISIS

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The Court hereby makes the following findings of fact:

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 public health crisis. 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.

Based on these findings of fact, and with the purpose to maintain essential court functions and to continue to protect the rights of all individuals subject to the authority of the Court, it is hereby ORDERED:

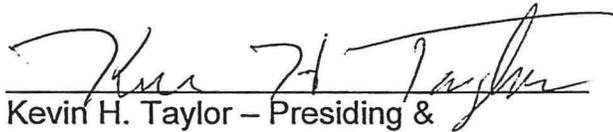
1. The Juvenile Division, Probate Division and General Division Local Rules of Court may be temporarily adapted to allow the Court to be flexible, within Constitutional limits, in response to the public health emergency.
2. The Juvenile Division, Probate Division and General Division security policies may be temporarily amended or supplemented to protected public health while maintaining essential court functions.
3. The Juvenile Division, Probate Division and General Division authorizes the use of audiovisual devises and technologies for all actions and proceedings.
4. The public health emergency may be considered to be a finding of good cause for continuance deemed necessary by the assigned judge on a case by case basis.

5. All hearings that can be facilitated by e-mail or phone will be done in that fashion if possible.

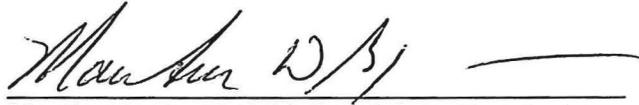
6. The Court will seek when time requests allow to continue matter as possible. Statutory and Constitutional requirements for criminal, delinquency, abuse, neglect and dependency matters may not allow continuance.

7. The Court will have the 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.

DATED: March 19, 2020



Kevin H. Taylor – Presiding &
Administrative Judge of the
Van Wert Common Pleas Court
Probate & Juvenile Division



Martin D. Burchfield Administrative Judge
Van Wert Common Pleas Court
General Division