



# THE COURT OF COMMON PLEAS

COUNTY OF CUYAHOGA

JUSTICE CENTER

1200 ONTARIO STREET

CLEVELAND, OHIO 44113

BRENDAN J. SHEEHAN

Presiding Judge  
(216) 443-8685

Administrative Judge  
General Division

March 18, 2020

The Judges of the Cuyahoga County Court of Common Pleas-General Division and staff have been working diligently to reduce the population of the Cuyahoga County Jail, with much success. These efforts could not have been accomplished without the cooperation of the Judges, County Executive and Sheriff, Cuyahoga County Prosecutor, Cuyahoga County Public Defender and criminal defense bar, and all of our staff working with the safety of the public and the jail in mind. With the rising concerns of the COVID-19 virus, and the expert medical opinions from the Governor's Office, the Judges of the General Division voted today to limit the number of Judges and staff in the Justice Center on a daily basis beginning on Friday, March 20, through Friday, April 10.

To be clear, **the Court remains open**, but will continue to focus only on essential Court functions.

This decision was not made lightly, but was done so with the health of the community, staff and attorneys serving the Court in mind. The primary focus of the Court during this time will be on incarcerated individuals and all emergency matters.

The Cuyahoga County Common Pleas Court is open and here to serve the citizens of Cuyahoga County during these challenging times.

Sincerely,

Brendan J. Sheehan  
Administrative and Presiding Judge