

Due to the Governor's Executive Order 2020-01D declaring a state of emergency for the State of Ohio, the Lakewood Municipal Court is modifying its operations in the interest of public health during the COVID-19 pandemic.

**The court will be open between 8:00 and 12:00 noon through May 31, 2020 for any personal appearances. Please check the court's website ([www.lakewoodcourtoh.com](http://www.lakewoodcourtoh.com)) for updates.**

The Court will suspend certain local rules to permit individuals to file a motion for continuance in any civil, criminal, or traffic cases due to the current health situation. These motions can be filed by fax, (216-529-7687), email ([lakewoodcourt@Lakewoodoh.net](mailto:lakewoodcourt@Lakewoodoh.net)), regular mail, or by person delivery to the court. For emergency situations, you may call the court at (216) 529-6700.

Traffic and criminal arraignment sessions will begin on May 18, 2020 with a limited number of persons for each arraignment session.

Civil and criminal hearings will be scheduled on an individual basis upon review of the court or written request of one of the parties setting out the reasons and approval by the court. Otherwise, civil trials, including eviction cases, will be continued until after June 1, 2020.

Any claim for forcible entry and detainer (eviction) based on non-payment of rent will be stayed until July 25, 2020 if the rental premises is a federally subsidized rental unit or secured by a federally backed mortgage or first or subordinate lien on the property under the terms of the Federal Coronavirus Aid Relief and Economic Security (C.A.R.E.S.) Act.

Due to the enactment of H.B. 197, all garnishments and bank attachments are stayed until after July 30, 2020 or the termination of the emergency order issued by the Governor of the State of Ohio, whichever is sooner.

Please note that if you have recently travelled from an area with widespread or ongoing community spread of COVID-19, reside or have had close contact with someone who has travelled to one of these areas within the last 14 days, have been asked to self-quarantine by any hospital or health agency, or have been diagnosed with, or have had contact with, anyone who has been diagnosed with COVID-19, you must take the following action:

If you are scheduled to appear in the Lakewood Court in the near future, contact your attorney for further instructions. If you do not have an attorney, submit a written request for a continuance. Reasonable accommodations will be made to reschedule appearances or you may be permitted to appear via teleconference or videoconference with the approval of the judge.

If you have flu-like symptoms (fever, cough, shortness of breath), please inform the Court Security Officers at the city hall entrance. You may be denied access into the building and be asked to contact your healthcare provider for details on how to proceed with proper medical care.

These steps are being taken to slow the spread of the virus and protect the health of courthouse staff and the community. Thank you for your cooperation and understanding.

Due to the need to reduce personal contact, the Court will not be performing marriage ceremonies until further notice.