

IN THE COURT OF COMMON PLEAS
KNOX COUNTY, OHIO
JUDGE RICHARD D. WETZEL

FILED
KNOX COUNTY
COURT OF COMMON PLEAS
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CHRISTY HILLIGAN STATION
CLERK OF COURTS

**JOURNAL ENTRY MODIFYING TEMPORARY EMERGENCY COURT
OPERATIONS PROTOCOL FOR COVID-19 RISKS**

This Journal Entry modifies the prior orders of this Court establishing temporary emergency court operations protocol for COVID-19 risks, to allow greater public access to court facilities. Except as modified herein, all other orders of this Court regarding COVID-19 protocol remain in full force and effect.

Effective May 1, 2021, the Court shall permit members of the public to attend court proceedings in the Courthouse facilities subject to capacity restrictions. The capacity for public attendance shall be controlled by the Court, the Director of Court Security and the bailiffs in the courtroom in accordance with all current health practices and policies. All persons shall observe appropriate and recommended health and sanitation practices upon their entrance to the courthouse facilities, and at all times during their participation in the proceedings as instructed by the bailiff or other court personnel. All persons shall bring their own facial covering, and it may be worn by any juror, attorney, witness, member of the public or other court personnel, in their discretion unless otherwise instructed by the Court. No unrestricted access shall be permitted for non-Court personnel in any area of the court location.

Remote public access viewing of court proceedings is available by request by calling the Director of Court Security, David Lashley, at 740-393-6777, Option 3 or go to the Court's website at (<https://www.co.knox.oh.us/commonpleascourt>).

IT IS SO ORDERED.



RICHARD D. WETZEL, JUDGE

A copy of this Order shall be served by regular or electronic mail upon:
Chief Justice of the Ohio Supreme Court
Knox County Prosecuting Attorney
Knox County Sheriff
Knox County Commissioners
Knox County Public Defender
Knox County Bar Association