

MEDIA UPDATE
May 15, 2020
Toledo Municipal Court

TOLEDO MUNICIPAL COURT BEGINS THE PROCESS OF RE-OPENING

Toledo Municipal Court begins recovery operations on Monday, May 18, 2020. The state of Ohio, in its Responsible ReStartOhio directive, has laid out guidelines for re-opening. The Court has made both physical and operational changes to comply with these directives. The ultimate goal of all of these changes is to accomplish social distancing, reduce unnecessary physical appearances, and permit enhanced sanitation. Presiding Judge Kuhlman stated, “We have made great efforts to continue court operations consistent with COVID-19 safety protocols. We truly appreciate the cooperation of the Clerk’s Office, attorneys, police and the public in helping us ensure justice in a safe and timely manner.”

Individuals must have a scheduled proceeding or appointment for services in order to enter the building. Individuals with scheduled appearances are encouraged to bring their notice of appearance with them to speed screening and entry into the building. Visitors should expect entry to take more time as security staff will be checking visitors against a list of scheduled appearances. A face-covering is also required to enter the building.

Starting Monday May 18th the Court will begin conducting out-of-custody arraignments, as well as scheduled criminal dockets (cases with the prefix CRA, CRB and TRC). Traffic appearances (TRD) are cancelled until July 1. In order to manage the number of people in the building and individual courtrooms, the Court is operating at reduced docket size and have staggered appearances. Individuals will not be permitted into the building until half an hour prior to the scheduled court appearance or appointment.

Arraignments for defendants that are in custody will be via video and conducted in Courtroom Three. Duties Court will only handle open and bench warrants. Duties Court will not handle any other matters, such as stays for fines and costs, take pleas, or continue cases. Such matters will need to be addressed through written motions.

Public hallways, courtrooms and waiting areas have been marked indicating where people can sit or stand. In addition, the Court has hired an additional staff member to assist in maintaining the high levels of cleaning and sanitizing that are expected in areas open to the public.

Individuals who are ill should not report for court dates or appointments. Individuals who are ill, or who are at high risk of severe illness from COVID-19 should contact their attorney to coordinate rescheduling court matters. Unrepresented individuals who are ill or are high risk for serious complications for COVID-19 should use the motion form <https://www.tmc-clerk.com/media/1622/emergency-motion-to-reschedule.pdf> to request rescheduling.

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