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COURT OF COMMON PLEAS
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CLERK OF COURTS
MONTGOMERY CO. OHIO
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IN THE COMMON PLEAS COURT OF MONTGOMERY COUNTY, OHIO

**TEMPORARY EMERGENCY ORDER ADDRESSING
LOCAL RULES, COURT SECURITY, AND OTHER
OPERATIONAL ISSUES IN RESPONSE TO THE
COVID-19 (CORONAVIRUS) PUBLIC HEALTH CRISIS**

ENTRY AND ORDER

The General Division Judges of the Montgomery County Court of Common Pleas make the following Findings of Fact:

1. 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.
2. 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 upon these Findings of Fact, the General Division of the Court of Common Pleas has developed a continuum of flexible responses in case the public health crisis escalates. The continuum of responses is intended to protect public health, to maintain essential court functions, and to continue to protect the rights of all individuals subject to the authority of the Court.

THEREFORE, IT IS HEREBY ORDERED:

1. The General Division Local Rules of Court may be temporarily adapted to allow Court flexibility, within Constitutional limits, in response to the public health emergency.
2. The General Division security policies may be temporarily amended or supplemented to protect public health while maintaining essential court functions.
3. The General Division Employee Handbook provisions may be temporarily adjusted to maintain essential court operations and functions.

4. The General Division authorizes the use of audiovisual devices and technologies for all actions and proceedings.
5. The public health emergency may be considered to be a finding of good cause for continuances deemed necessary by assigned Judges on a case-by-case basis.
6. 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.

SO ORDERED:

Michael V. K...

Mary Montgomery

Mary K. Hyff...

Mary Wiseman

ETIHI PR-Y

Timothy N. O'Connell

[Signature]

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**JUDGES OF THE COMMON PLEAS COURT, GENERAL DIVISION
MONTGOMERY COUNTY**