

COURT OF COMMON PLEAS
PICKAWAY COUNTY COURTHOUSE
207 SOUTH COURT STREET, 2ND FLOOR
CIRCLEVILLE, OHIO 43113

P. RANDALL KNECE, JUDGE

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Pickaway County Common Pleas Court, Domestic Relations Division

COVID-19 Pandemic Policy: Effective May 1, 2020

In late March and April, 2020 the Pickaway County Domestic Relations Court conformed to Governor DeWine's COVID 19 Pandemic Guidelines and stopped holding in-person Court hearings except in essential matters. In May, the Domestic Relations Court will begin holding hearings in person with the following specific precautions being put in place:

1. Face covering shall be worn by every person entering the courtroom.
2. Witnesses shall remain outside the Courthouse until notified to enter the Courthouse by counsel's text message or telephone call. Once released by the Court after testimony, the witness shall leave the Courthouse. Witnesses shall not wait in the Courthouse lobby.
3. No one (i.e., friends, family members, etc.) shall wait in the Courthouse lobby.
4. Spectators, not directly participating in the hearing, may watch from the back of the courtroom only as social distancing guidelines will allow with the space that is available. There is room for a maximum of **six** people to sit in the back of the courtroom, however no more than ten people will be allowed in the entire courtroom including magistrate, counsel, litigants, witness and Guardian ad Litem, if applicable.

5. The litigants may sit at the counsel tables with counsel.
6. All persons entering the courtroom are subject to having their temperature taken.

At this time, the Court will not require litigants nor counsel to appear in person for a hearing; therefore, a timely filed Motion For Continuance will be accepted and granted. The terms of this policy are subject to change as the Pandemic environment changes.

Magistrate Rick Noble