



## THE COURT OF COMMON PLEAS OF STARK COUNTY

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### PRESS RELEASE

April 7, 2020

The General Division of the Stark County Court of Common Pleas continues to adjust practices and policies pursuant to its March 13, 2020 Temporary Order in Response to the COVID-19 Public Health Crisis. The following adjustments were issued by the Judges on April 7, 2020:

1. The Court will continue the suspension of all criminal jury trials until May 8, 2020, unless the trial must be conducted on an emergency basis due to statutory and constitutional requirements.
2. Attempts will be made to conduct civil case mediations over the Zoom internet platform on a case by case basis. Parties will be contacted through counsel to assess capability to engage in remote mediations as currently scheduled. Otherwise, the prior order remains in effect; specifically, mediations scheduled to occur on or before May 29, 2020 are likely to be continued. New dates if a case remains unresolved should be scheduled through status calls with the office of the assigned Judge.
3. The Frank T. Bow Building will remain open to the public between 8:30 a.m. and 12:30 p.m. Monday through Friday. Access to the following Stark County Departments and Programs will remain available each weekday morning: the Public Defender Office, the County Probation Department, the County Pretrial Release Department, the Day Reporting Program, and the Reentry Program. Court programs in the Bow Building may be accessed by telephone during the weekday afternoon hours.

The Court will continue to take measures necessary to protect the public, attorneys, and our staff.

This updated press release is posted on the Court's website at [www.starkcountyohio.gov/common-pleas/news](http://www.starkcountyohio.gov/common-pleas/news). Questions may be directed to the Court Administration Office at 330-451-7707.