

SANDRA KURT

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SUMMIT COUNTY  
CLERK OF COURTS

IN THE COURT OF COMMON PLEAS  
GENERAL DIVISION  
SUMMIT COUNTY, OHIO

MISC ORDER 2020 700  
April 10, 2020

**UPDATED EMERGENCY ORDER IN RESPONSE TO THE COVID-19  
PUBLIC HEALTH CRISIS  
APRIL 10, 2020**

Administrative Judge Amy Corrigan Jones, hereby makes 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.
3. President Donald Trump proclaimed and declared a state of emergency for the United States of America on March 13, 2020.
4. The Summit County Court of Common Pleas General Division Judges addressed the threat of COVID-19 to the public health in Misc. Order 2020-700, filed on March 13, 2020, and incorporated and referenced herein.
5. On March 13, 2020, all trials were suspended for fourteen days up and through March 27, 2020, with the exception of State vs. Stanley Ford. This timeframe may be extended if deemed necessary and appropriate.
6. On March 13, 2020, the Court ordered that inmates shall not be transported from the Summit County Jail to the Summit County Courthouse for fourteen days up and through March 27, 2020. This timeframe may be extended if deemed necessary and appropriate.

7. On March 13, 2020, the Court ordered that all criminal matters with incarcerated individuals other than Stanley Ford shall be conducted via video conference in coordination with the Summit County Jail for fourteen days up and through March 27, 2020. This timeframe may be extended if deemed necessary and appropriate.
8. On March 13, 2020, the Court ordered that all civil matters shall be conducted by telephone or video conference for fourteen days up and through March 27, 2020. This timeframe may be extended if deemed necessary and appropriate.
9. On March 13, 2020, the Court ordered that all mediations shall be continued for fourteen days up and through March 27, 2020. This timeframe may be extended if deemed necessary and appropriate.
10. On March 13, 2020, the Court ordered that all probationers shall report via telephone for fourteen days up and through March 27, 2020. This timeframe may be extended if deemed necessary and appropriate.
11. To protect the public health by reducing the spread of COVID-19, Governor DeWine limited public gatherings to less than 50 persons as of March 16, 2020.
12. On March 16, 2020, the President of the United States recommended that public gatherings be restricted to no more than 10 persons.
13. On March 17, 2020, the Ohio Director of Public Health, Amy Acton, M.D. MPH, issued an order in accordance with President Trump's recommendations that public gatherings be restricted to no more than 10 persons.
14. On March 19, 2020, the Court issued Misc. Order 700 enumerating further restrictions in the General Division. That Order is incorporated and referenced herein.
15. On March 20, 2020, the Court issued Misc. Order 700 suspending all Sheriff Sales up and through April 24, 2020. That Order is incorporated and referenced herein.

16. On March 22, 2020, the Ohio Director of Public Health, Amy Acton, M.D. MPH, issued a “Stay at Home’ order. That Order is incorporated and referenced herein.
17. Both the United States District Court, Northern District of Ohio and the United States District Court, Southern District of Ohio have issued orders addressing the public health emergency in response to the spread of COVID-19. Those Orders are incorporated and referenced herein.
18. On April 2, 2020, the Ohio Director of Public Health, Amy Acton, M.D. MPH, issued a “Stay at Home’ order up and through 11:59 p.m. on May 1, 2020. That Order is incorporated and referenced herein.
19. On April 3, 2020, the Court issued Misc. Order 700 enumerating further public health protections in the General Division. That Order is incorporated and referenced herein.

The Court has considered the guidance and orders of the Governor of Ohio, the President of the United States, the United States District Courts, the Chief Justice of the Ohio Supreme Court, Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, and local public health authorities to effectuate the public health goals and to serve the public.

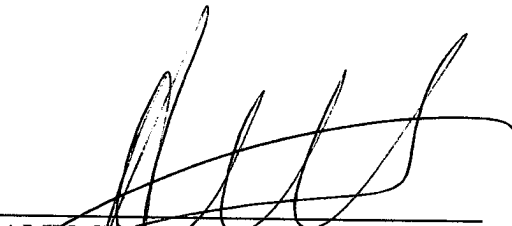
In response to the public health emergency; to reduce the substantial health risks to the community; to maintain essential court functions, and to continue to protect the rights of all individuals subject to the authority of the Court,

**THEREFORE, IT IS HEREBY ORDERED:**

1. All scheduled criminal and civil matters shall be conducted via video/telephone conference for twenty one (21) days up and through May 1, 2020. This timeframe may be extended if deemed necessary and appropriate.
2. No in person appearance shall be conducted by and judge, attorney or party, without prior approval by the Administrative Judge, for twenty one (21) days up and through May 1, 2020. This timeframe may be extended if deemed necessary and appropriate.
3. All visitation with any inmate at the Summit County Jail shall be conducted via video/telephone conference for twenty one (21) days up and through May 1, 2020, unless authorized by the Administrative Judge.
4. The General Division and all individuals herein shall continue to function under current social distancing protocols as ordered by the Governor of Ohio and should the Governor order further modifications; all individuals within the courthouse shall abide by said protocols.
5. Inmates shall not be transported from the Summit County Jail to the Summit County Courthouse up and through May 1, 2020. This timeframe may be extended if deemed necessary and appropriate.
6. All arraignments involving out of custody defendants shall be postponed or continued up and through May 1, 2020, unless:
  - a. As otherwise ordered by the Administrative Judge; or
  - b. As determined by the Administrative Judge as necessary and appropriate; or
  - c. Defendant and counsel have made arrangements as authorized by the Court for an alternative hearing. This timeframe may be extended if deemed necessary and appropriate.

7. The General Division shall continue to 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 delared public health emergency.

**IT IS SO ORDERED.**



**AMY CORRIGALL JONES**  
**ADMINISTRATIVE JUDGE**  
**GENERAL DIVISION**