

**From:** [Chief Justice Maureen O'Connor](#)  
**Subject:** COVID-19 Legislation  
**Date:** Thursday, March 26, 2020 3:56:35 PM

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Dear Judge,

As the coronavirus emergency continues to impact the operation of the Ohio judicial system, I continue to work closely with the Governor's Office, the Ohio Judicial Conference and others. You've received guidance from us several times now.

You will receive additional guidance tomorrow after our Governor signs the recently passed legislation and it becomes the law.

In that communication, the Supreme Court will share an order which will toll the time requirements that have been established by all Supreme Court-promulgated rules. In addition to our order, you will receive a questions and answers document that has been prepared by the Court staff regarding the practical implementation of the order.

The purpose of the Supreme Court order is to complement the law. As I'm sure you are aware, this new law tolls various time requirements established by statute (*e.g.*, statutes of limitations). It will be retroactive to March 9, 2020 and last until July 30, 2020 or until the emergency order expires, whichever is sooner.

I am proud of the leadership so many of you have displayed in your communities during this uncertain time, and I deeply appreciate your innovation and willingness to quickly adjust your processes to safeguard the public, litigants, and court staff.

Stay well.

God Bless.



Maureen O'Connor  
Chief Justice