

IN THE CHAMPAIGN COUNTY MUNICIPAL COURT
CRIMINAL/TRAFFIC/CIVIL/SMALL CLAIMS
URBANA, OHIO

FILED

APR 28 2020

Champaign County Municipal Court
Urbana, Ohio
Judy Evans

**EXTENSION OF TEMPORARY ORDER IN RESPONSE TO THE COVID-19
(CORONAVIRUS) PUBLIC HEALTH CRISIS**

The Champaign County Municipal Court makes the following Finding 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. On April 27, 2020, Governor Mike Dewine outlined the “phase 1” opening of the State and continued the “stay at home” orders with modifications to continue until an undetermined time.

Based upon these findings of Fact, the Municipal Court of Champaign County 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 Champaign County Municipal Court Local Rules may be temporarily adapted to allow flexibility, within Constitutional limits, in response to the public health emergency.
2. The Champaign County Municipal Court security policies may be temporarily amended or supplemented to protect public health while maintaining essential court functions.
3. The public health emergency may be considered to be a finding of good cause shown for continuances deemed necessary as approved by the Court on a case-by-case basis.
4. The Court will restrict all courtroom access to any individuals who do not have personal business within the Court. This official order will remain posted outside the Courtroom door and remain in effect until further notice.
5. The Court in compliance with the spatial distancing recommendations has adjusted all courtroom seating. Individuals entering the Courtroom will be assigned seating by the bailiff and/or other Court personnel upon entrance.

6. UPDATED- The Court will encourage individuals to conduct business with the Court by phone, mail and/or fax and only appear when needed. The Court will also suspended the \$5.00 processing fee to use a credit and/or debit card until June 1, 2020. At that time the Court will review the current situation and make additional changes and/or extensions as needed. If you do need to access the Court you are instructed to enter at the South Main Street entrance ONLY.
7. Attorneys who do not have scheduled court hearings will be denied access to the Champaign County Municipal Court Clerk's Office until further notice. They will be required to conduct all business (this includes filings and pick-up of court mail/correspondence) at the payment/case processing windows.
8. UPDATED- All Jury Trials are CANCELLED until June 1, 2020. The Court will reevaluate this and make changes and/or extensions as needed.
9. All other scheduled hearings in the criminal, traffic, civil and small claims divisions will be conducted as scheduled unless otherwise specified by Court. The Court will review motions filed post-conviction on a priority basis when scheduling.
10. UPDATED- The time period of March 13, 2020 through June 1, 2020, shall be "excluded time" under the Speedy Trial Act U.S.C 3161(h)(7)(A), as the Court finds that the ends of justice served by taking that action substantially outweigh the interests of the parties and the public in a speedy trial. Therefore, absent further order of the Court, the period of time from March 13, 2020, to June 1, 2020 is considered to be excluded time in all criminal proceedings in this Court pursuant to U.S.C. 3161 (h)(7)(A), the Court specifically finding and concluding that the ends of justice served by taking such actions and by such delay materially outweigh the best interests of the public and the defendants in a speedy trial. Specifically, such exclusion is necessary to assure that as to cases going to trial, a full unhindered, continuously serving jury venire and seated jury in every case, which is central to the sound administration of justice, and such exclusion of time is necessary in cases not yet set for trial in order to address the reasonably anticipated difficulties in the defense counsel quickly communicating of visiting with detained clients (including those detained in locales and facilities under a declared state of emergency), and the inherent delay in the scheduling of further trials as a consequence of the exclusion period herein. The Court may by further order extend the period of exclusion as circumstances warrant.
11. All matters before a magistrate, such as initial appearances, arraignments, hearings, issuance of warrants, shall continue utilizing such procedure as they or the Court may direct which are consistent with the tenor of this order and applicable law.
12. 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.

Date

4.26.2020

FILED

APR 28 2020

Champaign County Municipal Court
Clerk, Linda
Linda Evans

Judge G.S. Weithman

