
ORDER REGARDING EMERGENCY TEMPORARY MEASURES

The Milwaukee County Circuit Court issues the attached procedures and directions for the Courts during the next several weeks. **These Guidelines are Emergency and Temporary Measures ONLY effective from March 16, 2020 until April 3, 2020¹, or upon further Order of the Court.** The Milwaukee County courthouse remains open and any change in status will be noticed on the Milwaukee County Circuit Court website at <https://county.milwaukee.gov/EN/Courts> and the Wisconsin Court system website, www.wicourts.gov

The World Health Organization declared a global pandemic of COVID-19 due to widespread human infection worldwide, and Governor Evers, Milwaukee County and the City of Milwaukee have declared a public health emergency. We are monitoring this situation and are committed to open access to our courts and service to the public, and to protect the health and safety of the litigants, judges, court staff and security, attorneys, jurors, other participants in court proceedings, and all other persons in the court facilities.

These guidelines are in place to ensure the continuous performance of the court's essential functions and operations and yet seek to mitigate the exposure and further spread of the virus. The guidelines incorporate use of teleconferencing to minimize contact, when appropriate; follow social distancing practices; and temporarily suspend some non-essential court functions.

¹ Except as specifically indicated herein, some procedures and directions are effective through April 30, 2020 and/or until further noticed.

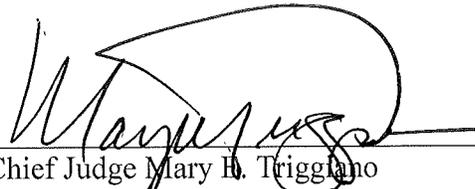
For specific information on a particular case, please call the Branch to which the case is assigned.

A link to Branch contact information can be found at

<https://county.milwaukee.gov/EN/Courts/Chief-Judge/List-of-Court-Officials>

For information related to jury service please call Jury Management. The contact information can be found at <https://county.milwaukee.gov/EN/Courts/Jury-Duty>

Dated this 14th day of March, 2020.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Mary H. Triggiano", is written over a horizontal line. The signature is stylized and cursive.

Chief Judge Mary H. Triggiano
1st Judicial District Of Wisconsin

**TEMPORARY AND EMERGENCY GUIDELINES FOR
PROCEEDINGS FOR CHILDREN'S COURT CASES**

1. All cases with hearings currently scheduled through April 3, 2020 at the Vel R. Phillips Youth and Family Justice Center (VPYFJC) shall be adjourned on the record and all applicable time limits shall be tolled.
2. Adjourned hearings include, but are not limited to: plea hearings, evidentiary hearings, dispositional hearings, permanency review hearings, sanction hearings, adoption hearings, guardianship hearings, revision hearings, extension hearings, county ordinance violations, Unified Court, Family Drug Treatment Court and Healthy Infant Court hearings and staffings.
3. All Temporary Restraining Orders currently in place involving a petition filed by a child, on behalf of a child, or against a child shall be extended and all time limits shall be tolled until the injunction hearing which will be scheduled for a date after April 3, 2020.

Requests for extension shall be granted for up to 30 days without a hearing and scheduled for a hearing prior to the expiration of the extension. The District Attorney's Office shall contact the court to immediately address any case where a 30 day extension has previously been granted and a hearing is currently scheduled for a date after April 3, 2020.

4. The following hearings shall continue to be heard at the VPYFJC:

- A) Temporary Physical Custody Hearings for Children in Need of Protection and Services (CHIPS) cases and Delinquency cases.
- B) Capias and warrant returns.

5. The following procedures shall apply to all hearings that need to be conducted at the VPYFJC:

- A) Court participation shall be limited to the following parties who shall be permitted to appear by phone: Assistant District Attorney, GAL, attorney for parent and/or child, parent(s) and/or guardians, child, representative of the Division of Milwaukee Child Protective Services (DMCPS) and/or Division of Youth and Family Services (DYFS), CASA, victims and victim-witness advocate.
 - B) No incarcerated party shall be produced for any hearing occurring through April 3, 2020.
 - C) Courts shall accept verbal or written consent to act obtained by an attorney on behalf of their client.
 - D) Courts shall be mindful of the current Public Health Emergency in issuing capias, bench warrants and default judgments.
6. Cases involving emergency or special circumstances shall be brought to the attention of the court and will be handled at the discretion of the individual judge considering the needs of the case, the needs of the parties, and the interest of the public.

**TEMPORARY AND EMERGENCY GUIDELINES FOR
PROCEEDINGS FOR CIVIL, PROBATE & SMALL CLAIMS CASES**

Large Claim Civil and Probate

1. All matters requiring in-person appearances including jury trials, court trials, or other contested or potentially contested hearings where evidence will be taken by other than telephonic means or foreclosure motions are suspended until after April 30, 2020, or until further Order of the Court. Any such matters currently set for a date on or prior to April 30, 2020, will be rescheduled by the Clerk for either a status/scheduling conference or an alternative hearing date, at the discretion of the Judge assigned to such matter.
2. Between now and April 30, 2020, or until further Order of the Court, any non-evidentiary hearing that can be done by phone will proceed as scheduled, including but not limited to scheduling conferences, status conferences, pretrial conferences, motion hearings, oral decisions, and name change proceedings; duty judge matters, including but not limited to requests for amendments to birth, marriage and death certificates, shall be submitted in writing, either via e-filing or mail. However, any matter may be rescheduled at the discretion of the Judge assigned to such matter if the Judge believes that an in-person appearance should be required.
3. No one may appear in person for hearings between now and April 30, 2020, or until further Order of the Court, unless it is an emergency matter, with the express advance approval of the Judge assigned to such matter; it is expected that this will be limited to such things as Judicial Review of Domestic Abuse or Harassment Restraining Orders or Requests for Stay of Writs of Restitution/Assistance.

Small Claims

1. All small claims appearances are suspended until after April 3, 2020, or until further Order of the Court. Any such matters currently set for a date on or prior to April 3, 2020, will be rescheduled by the Clerk via written notice.
2. No one may appear in person for hearings between now and April 3, 2020, or until further Order of the Court, unless it is an emergency matter, with the express advance approval of the Judge or Court Commissioner assigned to such matter; it is expected that this will be limited to such things as Requests for Stay of Writs of Restitution.

Weddings

1. All Courthouse weddings are canceled until after April 3, 2020, or until further Order of the Court. Any wedding party unable to make alternative wedding arrangements should contact the Milwaukee County Clerk's Office at 414-278-4067 for accommodations.

Guardianship/Protective Placement and Mental Commitment Hearings

1. Mental Commitment Probable Cause Hearings shall be via telephone between now and April 3, 2020, or until further Order of the Court, as follows: during the week of March 16, 2020, on Monday through Thursday; during the weeks of March 23 and 30, 2020, on Mondays, Tuesdays and Thursdays. Mental Commitment Final and Extension Hearings shall take place via telephone on Fridays as previously scheduled.
2. Watts Hearings are suspended until after April 3, 2020, or until further Order of the Court. Any such matters currently set for a date on or prior to April 3, 2020, will be rescheduled by the Clerk.
3. Guardianship/Protective Placement pending hearings and new filings are suspended until after April 3, 2020, or until further Order of the Court, unless it is an emergency matter, with the express advance approval of the Judge or court Officer assigned to such matter.
4. Please call 278-4444 with any questions regarding scheduling of these matters.

**TEMPORARY AND EMERGENCY GUIDELINES FOR
PROCEEDINGS FOR FAMILY CASES**

1. All contested matters requiring in-person appearances including court trials, contested custody and placement hearings, any hearing where evidence will be taken by other than telephonic means and all mediation matters are suspended until after April 3, 2020, or until further Order of the Court. Clerks in individual branches will schedule these proceedings as the Court's calendar permits. Contact the individual branch for direction if parties wish to have evidentiary hearings by phone. It will be left to the discretion of the Judge or Court Commissioner to do so.
2. Any hearing that can be done by phone will proceed as scheduled, including but not limited to, scheduling conferences, status conferences, motion hearings.
3. All petitions for Domestic Violence Injunctions, Child Abuse Injunctions, Harassment Injunctions and Temporary Restraining Orders shall be heard as scheduled in person or by telephone.
4. All stipulated divorces shall be adjourned until after April 3, 2020, or until further Order of this Court.
5. The Sojourner Family Peace Center Restraining Order Clinic on the 7th floor of the Courthouse will be open.

**TEMPORARY AND EMERGENCY GUIDELINES FOR
PROCEEDINGS FOR CRIMINAL CASES**

1. All matters requiring in-person appearances including jury trials, court trials, or other contested or potentially contested hearings where evidence will be taken by other than telephonic or video conferencing means are suspended until after April 3, 2020, or until further Order of the Court. Any such matters currently set for a date on or prior to April 3, 2020, will be rescheduled by the Clerk for either a status/scheduling conference or an alternative hearing date, at the discretion of the Judge assigned to such matter.
2. Between now and April 3, 2020, or until further Order of the Court, any non-evidentiary hearing that can be done by telephone or video conference will proceed as scheduled, including but not limited to scheduling conferences, status conferences, pretrial conferences, motion hearings and oral decisions. However, any matter may be rescheduled at the discretion of the Judge assigned to such matter if the Judge believes that an in-person appearance should be required.
3. All proceedings involving out-of-custody defendants are canceled until after April 3, 2020, or until further Order of the Court. Proceedings may be heard by telephone or video conference if practical.
4. All non-jury trial proceedings involving in-custody defendant, who are not being held on any basis other than the case-at-bar, will presumptively proceed as timely scheduled. However, each judge has the discretion to deviate from this guideline as deemed appropriate.
5. All Orders-to-Produce for inmates in the Wisconsin State Prison System are canceled until after April 3, 2020, or until further order of this court. No new Orders-to-Produce will be issued until after April 3, 2020, or until further order of the court.
6. Out-of-Custody Intake Court (221-Safety Building) is closed until after April 3, 2020, or until further Order of this Court.
7. Individuals who post bail or are released from the jail and ordered into Out-of-Custody Intake Court (221-Safety Building) shall be ordered-in after April 3, 2020.
8. Initial appearances for in-custody defendants shall continue to be heard in room 137A of the Criminal Justice Facility unless otherwise ordered by the Court.
9. All preliminary hearings for out-of-custody defendants shall be adjourned until after April 3, 2020. All preliminary hearings for in-custody defendants shall proceed as scheduled.
10. Proceedings scheduled to be conducted via video conferencing shall proceed as scheduled.
11. All bail forfeiture hearings are canceled until further notice of the Court.

12. Courts shall be mindful of the current Public Health Emergency in issuing and/or issuing and staying bench warrants.
13. For all re-scheduled hearings, the Clerk will mail notice of the new hearing date to the parties.

**TEMPORARY AND EMERGENCY GUIDELINES FOR
FOR PRETRIAL SUPERVISION, EARLY INTERVENTIONS &
ADULT DRUG TREATMENT COURT**

1. All face-to-face supervision with JusticePoint programs is canceled until after April 3, 2020, or until further Order of the Court. Defendants/participants shall be supervised by telephone contact.
2. All Drug Treatment Court (DTC) staffings and hearings are canceled until after April 3, 2020, or until further Order of the Court. Face-to-face supervision contacts for all DTC participants are suspended until after April 3, 2020, or until further Order of the Court. All DTC participants shall be supervised by telephone contact. DTC participants shall call the Drug Testing Line, 414-223-1926, and if selected for testing, shall report to Wisconsin Community Services at 3732 W. Wisconsin Avenue, Door #3.
3. Except as directed in Paragraph 1, all diversion, deferred prosecution and treatment alternatives and diversions (EI) staffings and hearings are canceled until after April 3, 2020, or until further Order of the Court. Face-to-face supervision contacts for all EI participants are suspended until after April 3, 2020, or until further Order of the Court. All EI participants shall be supervised by telephone contact. Drug testing and PBTs for all EI participants under JusticePoint supervision is suspended until after April 3, 2020, or until further Order of the Court.
4. Except as directed in Paragraph 1, face-to-face supervision contacts for defendants under JusticePoint supervision are suspended until after April 3, 2020, or until further Order of the Court. All defendants under JusticePoint supervision shall be supervised by telephone contact.
5. Except as directed in Paragraph 1, drug testing and PBTs for all defendants under JusticePoint supervision is suspended until after April 3, 2020, or until further Order of the Court.
6. All Veteran's Treatment Court and Mental Health Treatment Court staffings and hearings are canceled until after April 3, 2020, or until further Order of the Court.
7. All individuals being monitored by Secure Continuous Remote Alcohol Monitoring (SCRAM) shall continue to report only for the purpose of downloading SCRAM device information.