

**LUCAS COUNTY COURT OF COMMON PLEAS
JUVENILE DIVISION**



In the Matter of:

**AMENDED TEMPORARY ORDER IN RESPONSE TO COVID-19
(CORONAVIRUS) PUBLIC HEALTH EMERGENCY**

JOURNAL ENTRY

The Lucas County Court of Common Pleas, Juvenile Division (LCJC or Court), makes the following Findings of Fact Administrative Order.

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 (Coronavirus) public health emergency declared by the United States Health and Human Services Secretary, on January 31, 2020.
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 March 13, 2020, President Trump declared the Coronavirus pandemic to be a national emergency.
4. On March 27, 2020, Governor DeWine signed into law House Bill 197, which retroactive to March 9, 2020 and continuing until the end of the “State of Emergency” or July 30, 2020, whichever is sooner, tolls all statute of limitations, time limitations and deadlines in the Ohio Revised Code and Ohio Administrative Code.
5. On July 13, 2020, Toledo City Council passed and on July 14, 2020 the Mayor signed Municipal Ordinance sec. 521.12, requiring individuals to wear face masks in places of business.

6. On July 23, 2020, the Ohio Department of Health issued a Director's Order requiring all individuals in the State of Ohio, with limited exceptions, to wear a facial covering when inside a building that is not a residence. The Lucas County Court of Common Pleas, Juvenile Division, Administrative Judge has consulted with the Lucas County Commissioners, the Lucas County Sheriff, the Lucas County Health Commissioner, the Lucas County Emergency Management Agency, the Lucas County Telecommunications and Information Technology department, and other local, state and federal governmental agencies, including the Supreme Court of Ohio, regarding means available to prevent the spread of the COVID-19 virus while maintaining Court functions.
7. In response to rapidly increasing community COVID-19 spread, the Toledo-Lucas County Health Department, issued a stay-at-home advisory effective November 19, 2020 until December 17, 2020.
8. This Amended Temporary Administrative Order in response to COVID-19, supersedes all prior Temporary Administrative Orders in response to COVID-19.

Based upon these findings, the LCJC Administrative Judge has developed a continuum of flexible responses in case the public health emergency escalates, and to be in effect until such time as the local governmental response to the COVID-19 has resulted in control of the spread of the virus or otherwise until further order of the Court. 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.

It is therefore ***ORDERED, ADJUDGED and DECREED THAT:***

1. The local rules of the Lucas County Court of Common Pleas, Juvenile Division (LCJC or Court), may be temporarily adapted to allow Court flexibility, within Constitutional limits, in response to the public health emergency.
2. The LCJC's security policies may be temporarily amended or supplemented to protect public health while maintaining essential Court functions. Court will continue to work with security to determine a means to identify sick individuals who will be entering LCJC and take

appropriate actions to ensure a health work environment.

- a. Beginning April 6, 2020 and continuing until otherwise ordered, all individuals entering the Court are required to have their body temperature taken by means of a no contact forehead thermometer. Any individual displaying an external temperature reading of 100.4° or higher and/or displaying visible signs of illness such as, coughing, sneezing, or other COVID19 symptoms may be turned away from entering the Court.
 - i. Anyone who is turned away or unable to enter for reasons listed above, shall notify the Court and their attorney by telephone or email and shall not come into the courthouse, unless specifically instructed to do so by the assigned Judge or Magistrate.
 - ii. Court personnel, prior to beginning their work day, shall complete and submit a daily health screener to their supervisor and anyone who is showing signs of illness, shall notify their immediate Supervisor and not report to work, pending further instructions from their Department Administrator.
 - b. All individuals entering the Court must exercise social distancing, by remaining six (6) or more feet away from others, wash and disinfect their hands frequently, and wear facemasks, following orders of the Ohio Health Director.
3. The LCJC's Employee Handbook, may be temporarily adjusted to maintain essential Court operations and functions.
 4. The Court authorizes the use of telephones, cellular phones, audiovisual devices and technologies for all actions and proceedings.
 5. The Court will have 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.
 6. The Court shall attempt to minimize the amount of travel and social in-person interaction of parties, attorneys, witnesses, law enforcement personnel, and judicial personnel by continuing non-essential proceedings or conducting proceedings, as far as practical, by remote video or telephonic electronic means.

7. With the recent rise in the community spread of COVID-19, the Court will immediately begin conducting hearings remotely, with the exception of the following hearing types;
 - a. These hearings, at the discretion of the Magistrate or Judge, may be held in person;
 - i. Emergency hearings;
 - ii. Shelter Care hearings;
 - iii. Detention trials; and
 - iv. Disposition hearings.
8. All other hearings, not specified above, may be held remotely at the Magistrate's or Judge's discretion.
9. Remote hearings will be held using telephonic and/or Zoom video conferencing. All requests to conduct and/or participate in a hearing remotely, should be directed to the Magistrate or Judge prior to the hearing.
 - a. The Magistrate or Judge will review the request and if approved, the matter will be scheduled as such and all parties will be notified.
 - b. Anyone who is unable to participate remotely, should contact the Court at 419-213-6744, at least 48 hours prior to their scheduled hearing and the Court will advise them on how they may participate.
10. All hearings for individuals who are currently confined or being held at the Lucas County Jail, will be held via Zoom video conferencing.
11. Any party to a case, who is under a quarantine order, or who has been exposed to COVID-19 should not report to the court for their hearing, instead they should contact the court at 419-213-6744 in order for the court to determine next steps.
12. Any party traveling from another jurisdiction or area that has been determined to be a COVID-19 'hot zone' (a state who's positivity rate is 15% or greater, as determined by the Ohio Department of Health), will be required to participate by phone or Zoom video conferencing, or to otherwise, travel to Lucas County and self-quarantine for fourteen (14) days prior to their appearance in court.
- 13. For any matters, not included herein, the assigned Judge or Magistrate may consider the public health emergency as good cause for granting continuances on a case-by-case**

basis.

14. Judicial officers, attorneys and agencies may file all orders electronically by email at lcjinfo@co.lucas.oh.us, serve orders by email notification, and use Zoom video conferencing and telephone conferencing in an effort to reduce the number of people who come into the Court each day.
15. All probation reporting will take place by phone.
16. All Juvenile Detention Center and Youth Treatment Center family visits will take place by Zoom video conferencing utilizing the Zoom Televisit Stations in the Court or their own personal mobile device.
17. Mediations scheduled to be done at the Court, will be conducted remotely.
18. Payments normally made in the Clerk's Office on-line or through the mail.
 - a. Court costs, fees, and restitution, may be paid on line at our website <http://www.co.lucas.oh.us/204/Juvenile-Court> or mailed by check or money order to the Clerk's Office 1801 Spielbusch Ave., Toledo, Ohio 43604.
 - b. Child Support payments may be made on line at <https://oh.smartchildsupport.com/> or mailed by check or money order to Ohio CSPC, P.O. Box 182372, Columbus, Ohio 43218-2394 or by cash in the Clerk's Office.
19. To limit in-person contact, all filing fees should be paid on-line at <http://www.co.lucas.oh.us/204/Juvenile-Court>, prior to the first hearing. Failure to pay or make arrangements to pay filing fees prior to the first hearing, may result in the dismissal of the action.
20. When the public health emergency subsides, the Court shall enter an order declaring an end to the duration of the emergency and resumption of normal or modified operations.
21. This "Temporary Order" shall be served on the Supreme Court of Ohio, Ohio Judicial Conference, Lucas County Court of Common Pleas, General Divisions, Toledo Bar Association, Lucas County Prosecutor's Office, Lucas County Public Defender's Office, Lucas County Sheriff, Lucas County Board of County Commissioners, and the Lucas County Health Commissioner, Lucas County Children Services, and Lucas County JFS,

CSEA.

It is so ORDERED.

Denise Navarre Cubbon
Denise Navarre Cubbon, Administrative Judge

11/19/2020
Date