

STATE OF OHIO)
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COUNTY OF STARK)
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IN THE CANTON MUNICIPAL COURT
STARK COUNTY, OHIO

ADMINISTRATIVE ORDER

- I. 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.
- II. 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.
- III. On March 13, 2020, President Trump issued a "Proclamation on Declaring a National Emergency Concerning the Novel Coronavirus Disease (COVID-19) Outbreak," stating that "[a]dditional measures" are "needed to successfully contain and combat the virus in the United States."
- IV. On March 15, 2020, Governor Mike DeWine ordered closed all bars and restaurants other than carry-out service. On March 16, 2020, Governor DeWine ordered closed gyms, fitness centers, recreation centers, bowling alleys, indoor water parks, movie theaters, and other business. The ban does not include public buildings or Courts. The volume of people that the Canton Municipal Court serves on a daily basis warrants additional action on behalf of the public.

The Canton Municipal Court has developed flexible responses in consideration of this public health crisis. These responses are 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 ORDERED:

1. The Canton Municipal Court will remain open and functioning during the state of emergency due to COVID-19, subject to the following.
2. For any case continued pursuant to this Order, the Clerk is directed to issue notice of the continued date to the most recent address on file.
3. For any matter continued pursuant to this Order or other order of any Judge, and to which R.C. 2945.71 applies, the period of the continuance will toll the running of the time for speedy trial as the period of any reasonable continuance granted other than upon the accused's own motion. R.C. 2945.72(H).

Fines, Costs, Community Service, and Driver Intervention Program Continuances

4. If fines, fees, or court costs are not paid; or if community service and driver intervention programs are not performed by any respective due date, the Clerk is directed to continue the due date to August 3, 2020.

Traffic Arraignment

5. For traffic cases in which a ticket has already been filed, arraignment shall be continued to a specific date at least eight weeks from the date of this Order.
6. For traffic tickets filed within eight weeks from the date of this Order, the Clerk is hereby directed to schedule those cases for arraignment eight weeks from the date the ticket is filed.

Evictions

7. For pending cases in which the plaintiff seeks restitution of premises, hearings shall be continued to a specific date at least eight weeks from the date of this Order.
8. Claims for eviction filed between March 18, 2020, and eight weeks from the date of this Order shall be scheduled for hearing eight weeks from the date of filing.

Small Claims Division

9. Pending claims in the Small Claims Division shall be continued to a specific date as determined in the discretion of the assigned Magistrate.
10. For any new claim received by the Small Claims Division for assignment within eight weeks from the date of this Order, and notwithstanding R.C. 1925.04(B), the Small Claims Division Manager is directed to schedule the case for hearing eight weeks from the date of filing.

Miscellaneous Hearings

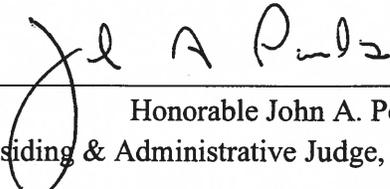
11. All judgment debtor examinations hearings, garnishment hearings, rent escrow hearings, and damages hearings shall be continued to a specific date at least eight weeks from the date of this Order.
12. For eight weeks from the date of this Order, any motion for judgment debtor examination, any motion pertaining to a rent escrow matter, and any damages hearing shall be scheduled eight weeks from the date the motion was filed.

Jury Service

13. Individuals who are summonsed for jury service are requested to stay home until or unless they are notified that their services are needed for a particular trial.

Weddings

14. Those who have scheduled weddings are discouraged from having their weddings take place during the next eight weeks. For weddings that do go forward, only six individuals may attend the wedding, in addition to the individuals being married.



Honorable John A. Poulos
Presiding & Administrative Judge, 2020

Dated: March 18, 2020