

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF THE TWENTIETH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT
WASHINGTON COUNTY, ILLINOIS

FILED

MAR 17 2020

ADMINISTRATIVE ORDER NO. 2020-AO-1

Christy R. Smith
Clerk of Circuit Court
Washington County Illinois

IN RE: COURT OPERATIONS UNDER THE EXIGENT CIRCUMSTANCES
CREATED BY THE COVID-19 VIRUS

Considering the recent outbreak of the COVID-19 virus, recommendations of the Centers for Disease Control (CDC) and other public health agencies to limit social contact at gatherings, the following measures are being taken by the Circuit Court of Washington County, for those cases set for the remainder of the week of **March 16, 2020**, the week of **March 23, 2020**, and the week of **March 30, 2020**:

1. All criminal felony (CF) hearings, in which the defendant is not in custody, are to be continued until after the week of March 30, 2020. An Order to continue shall be prepared by the State and will be entered in each case. All hearings in felony cases in which the defendant is in custody will be held as usual;
2. All criminal misdemeanor (CM), driving under the influence (DT), traffic (TR), conservation (CV), and ordinance violation (OV) hearings in which the defendant is not in custody, or in which does not involve a petition to rescind statutory summary suspension, are to be continued until after the week of March 30, 2020. An Order to continue shall be prepared by the State and will be entered in each case. All hearings in any of these cases in which the defendant is in custody, or in which does involve a petition to rescind statutory summary suspension, will be held as usual;
3. All Washington County Drug Court hearings shall continue to take place as directed by the Drug Court Judge;
4. All juvenile delinquency (JD) cases set for adjudication or disposition shall remain set. An Order to continue shall be prepared by the State and will be entered in each case. All other hearings in JD cases shall be continued until after the week of March 30, 2020;

5. All juvenile abuse, neglect, or dependency (JA) cases set for adjudication or disposition shall remain set. An Order to continue shall be prepared by the State and will be entered in each case. All other hearings in JA cases shall be continued until after the week of March 30, 2020;
6. All order of protection and stalking no contact order (OP) cases shall remain set;
7. All other civil case hearings, other than conference call hearings, shall be continued until after the week of March 30, 2020;
8. In any case continued by this Order, any party may request the Court for a hearing within the affected time frame by filing a written motion with the Circuit Clerk. Such settings may be scheduled on a case-by-case basis, in the Court's discretion; and
9. Each party shall receive notice by the Circuit Clerk of rescheduled hearing dates. It is the responsibility of the parties to ensure that their mailing addresses are updated and current with the Circuit Clerk.

Entered this 17 day of March, 2020.



Daniel J. Emge, Circuit Judge



Washington County Emergency Management Agency

160 N West Court St.
Nashville, IL 62263

Phone: (618) 327-4800 ext. 340
FAX: (618) 327-7281

Office Hours:

Mon, Wed, Fri 8:00A.M.– 4: 00P.M Email: matt.bierman@washingtonco.illinois.gov

Washington County Press Release

COVID-19 Disaster Declaration

For immediate release, On Wednesday March 18, 2020 Washington County Board Chairman David A. Meyer issued a Disaster Declaration in response to the COVID-19 Pandemic. Declaring a disaster is an essential step in Washington County's response to the crisis. The Declaration enacts the emergency operations plan and unlocks access to resources, equipment, and personnel in order to assist residents of Washington County.

The Declaration will allow for greater collaboration with local, state, and federal governments. It also positions the county to access support from the federal government when additional resources are necessary and with federal funding that is becoming available.

Washington County will remain open and will continue to serve our residents at a restricted level. We ask that you call and complete your business over the phone, or via email when possible. If after talking on the phone you must come to an office you will be screened before entering the building. This is a precautionary measure to ensure the health and safety of both our employees and our Citizens.

As part of our coordinated effort, The Washington County EMA Director and Washington County Health Department Administrator is in communications with state and federal officials regarding the evolving COVID-19 response. The Chairman of the Washington County Board will be kept up to date on the response and when needed consult with the other Board members to help facilitate the response to COVID-19.

As a reminder, CDC always recommends everyday healthy behaviors to help prevent the spread of respiratory viruses, including:

- Avoid close contact with people who are sick.
- Avoid touching your eyes, nose, and mouth.
- Stay home when you are sick.
- Cover your cough or sneeze with a tissue, then throw the tissue in the trash.
- Clean and disinfect frequently touched objects and surfaces using a regular household cleaning spray or wipe.
- Washing your hands often with soap and water for at least 20 seconds, especially after going to the bathroom; before eating; and after blowing your nose, coughing, or sneezing.