

IN THE COURT OF COMMON PLEAS OF THE 22<sup>ND</sup> JUDICIAL DISTRICT  
COUNTY OF WAYNE

IN RE: 22<sup>ND</sup> JUDICIAL DISTRICT--  
DECLARATION OF JUDICIAL EMERGENCY

:  
:  
: Wayne County  
: NO. 55-MD-2020  
:  
:  
: Supreme Court  
: No. 34 MM 2020

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ADMINISTRATIVE ORDER

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AND NOW, to wit, this 10 day of December, 2020, pursuant to the Supreme Court's Orders dated March 16, 2020, April 1, 2020, April 28, 2020, and May 27, 2020 (Nos. 531 and 532 Judicial Administration Docket), it the **ORDER** of this Court that:

1. Wayne County Court facilities will be open to the public **ONLY** for Essential Functions until such time as safe operation of the court and its offices can be restored. Essential Functions include: Emergency legal matters, Mental Health Reviews, Bench Warrants and Detainer hearings, Emergency and Temporary Protection from Abuse Processing, Emergency Juvenile Dependency and Delinquency Hearings, Emergency Guardianships, Preliminary Hearings for jailed Defendants, Preliminary Arraignments, and bail hearings.
  - a. The Court of Common Pleas shall conduct all proceedings, where practicable, using Advanced Communications Technology (ACT). Any exhibits to be presented **SHALL** be emailed to the Court and opposing counsel and/or pro se litigant one (1) day before the scheduled hearing at: [exhibits@waynecountypa.gov](mailto:exhibits@waynecountypa.gov).
  - b. Magisterial District Courts shall conduct all hearings/proceedings using Advanced Communications Technology (ACT).

- i. All payments for fines and costs shall be made by mail or online at <https://ujportal.pacourts.us/ePay/Default.aspx>.

**c. Protection From Abuse (PFA)**

- i. The Prothonotary will continue to provide litigants with ex parte applications and forms for Temporary PFA actions. Ex parte hearings will be conducted in person.
- ii. Final PFA and modification of PFA hearings will be conducted using ACT.

**d. Custody and Divorce Conferences**

- i. All conferences will be held via ACT. Court Administration will contact counsel and any pro se litigants and arrange for the conference. All new complaints and motions/petitions in established cases must contain contact information for counsel and pro se litigants including phone numbers and email addresses, if available.

**e. Support Conferences**

- i. All support conferences will be held via ACT. Any supporting documents must be emailed or mailed to the Wayne County Domestic Relations at least one (1) day in advance of the conference. Supporting documents may be emailed to: [katherinescheer@pacses.com](mailto:katherinescheer@pacses.com).

2. The operation of Rule of Criminal Procedure 600, relating to speedy trials, shall remain suspended in the 22<sup>nd</sup> Judicial District until March 8, 2021 (the next scheduled trial term).

3. Statewide rules that restrict, directly or indirectly, the use of Advanced Communication Technology (“ACT”) shall remain suspended in the 22<sup>nd</sup> Judicial District until January 31, 2021.
4. Motions Court shall remain cancelled through January 31, 2021.
5. All Court employees and every person entering any Court Facility SHALL wear a facial covering which covers the nose and mouth, in accordance with the Order of the Secretary of the Pennsylvania Department of Health at the time of the entry into the Court Facility (the Secretary’s Order, as well as any related amendments, updates, or new orders may be found at <https://www.health.pa.gov/>).
6. All persons in all Court Facilities shall at all times maintain physical distancing of a minimum of six (6) feet of separation.
7. Any person who meets one or more of the below criteria is PROHIBITED from entering the Court facility:
  - a. Is currently directed to quarantine, isolate, or self-monitor at home for COVID-19 by any doctor, hospital, or health agency; or,
  - b. Has been diagnosed with (and has not been medically cleared from isolation), or has had close contact with anyone diagnosed with COVID-19 (within the last fourteen (14) days); or,
  - c. Has flulike symptoms or a temperature over 100 degrees Fahrenheit; or,
  - d. Is not wearing a facial covering in accordance with paragraph 5 above; or,
  - e. Has traveled outside of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania within the last fourteen (14) days.

BY THE COURT:



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JANINE EDWARDS  
PRESIDENT JUDGE

cc: Wayne County Commissioners  
Wayne County Sheriff's Dept.  
Wayne County Bar Association  
Court Administration  
Juvenile Probation  
Domestic Relations Office  
Adult Probation  
Hon. Bonnie Carney  
Hon. Linus Myers  
Hon. Ronald Edwards