

IN THE CHARDON MUNICIPAL COURT  
CHARDON MUNICIPAL COURT

FILED

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IN THE MATTER OF COURT OPERATIONS ]  
] ]  
CHANGES IN RESPONSE TO CoVID-19 ]

JOURNAL ENTRY  
CHARDON MUNICIPAL COURT  
CHARDON, OHIO

The following are Orders of this Court as the State of Ohio has encountered a marked increase in the number of covid cases.

In response to this marked increase, as well as directives from Chief Justice Maureen O'Connor, the following measures are being implemented, as we continue to maintain a safe environment for those who have business before the Court. Therefore, effective December 16, 2020:

1. Criminal Jury trials will be tolled for a period of 90 days; trials to the Court will be scheduled on a case by case basis;
2. Until further order of the Court, arraignments and initial appearances will be conducted by video for the Defendants in the Geauga County Safety Center. The Public Defender is permitted in the jail for this purpose. Other attorneys may speak to their clients in jail via telephone, then appear in the Courtroom while the Defendant is seen by video;
3. Traffic and Criminal Arraignments-the Court will conduct arraignments as scheduled, but will review motions for continuance on a case by case basis;
4. Traffic and Criminal Pretrials and trials-the Court will resume scheduling of pretrials in a manner consistent with procedures practiced to protect the safety and health of persons who have business before the Court. On the Court's own motion, continuances are hereby granted pursuant to R.C.2945.72(H) if a speedy trial issue exists, based upon a necessity to protect public health.
5. Probation appointments may continue to be conducted by telephone with each Defendant's respective probation officer; however, at the discretion of the individual probation officer, an in person appointment may be scheduled and conducted in city council chambers. The probationer must wear a mask or face covering and comply with social distancing and hygiene requirements; (the City of Chardon is requiring the wearing of a face covering to enter the building and during the extent of time in the building); the probationer will be contacted by the probation officer the day prior to his/her scheduled appointment to assess any possible covid symptoms, risk of exposure or recent travel, and an alternate plan may be given by the probation officer based upon the assessment; in person appointments will not proceed until clearance

- by one's physician if he/she presented with covid symptoms or other possible risk factors; all other terms of the individual probation will remain in full force and effect;
6. All civil matters will be scheduled in accordance with procedures practiced to protect the safety and health of persons who have business before the Court.
  7. Civil trials to the Magistrate will be scheduled on a case by case basis.
  8. Weddings will be scheduled, but until further order of the Court, only the Groom and Bride shall be in attendance.
  9. Eviction hearings are being scheduled.
  10. To the public entering the clerk's/Court area, masks or face coverings are required in tandem with the City of Chardon's plan, effective May 11, 2020, as well as compliance with CDC guidelines.

IT IS SO ORDERED.

  
12-21-2020  
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JUDGE TERRI L. STUPICA

**JOURNALIZED**

DEC 21 2020

CHARDON MUNICIPAL COURT