

FILED
Newton Falls Municipal Court

MAR 19 2020

By RB

NEWTON FALLS MUNICIPAL COURT
TRUMBULL COUNTY, OHIO

IN RE: TEMPORARY ORDER IN
RESPONSE TO THE COVID-19
(CORONAVIRUS) PUBLIC
HEALTH CRISIS

MARCH 19, 2020

JUDGE PHILIP M. VIGORITO

JOURNAL ENTRY

In response to the State of Emergency issued by the Governor, and the outbreak in Trumbull County of the Coronavirus (COVID-19) pandemic, Newton Falls Municipal Court is hereby issuing the following orders effective immediately:

1. The local rules of court may be temporarily adapted to allow court flexibility, within constitutional limits, in response to the public health emergency;
2. The Court's security policies may be temporarily amended or supplemented to protect public health while maintaining essential court functions;
3. The Court authorizes the use of audio-visual devices and technologies for all actions and proceedings;
4. This public health emergency may be considered a finding of "just cause" for continuances deemed necessary by the Judge on a case-by-case basis;
5. Access to the Court will be limited to those with actual urgent business with the Court or Probation. Visitors shall be restricted to those having business before the Court ONLY. Family members, guests and ancillary participants are NOT permitted to attend Court proceedings until further notice;
6. If you are scheduled to appear in Court for an arraignment on a non-waiverable traffic ticket or low level, non-violent misdemeanor, you may ask to continue your initial appearance, or file a written plea of Not Guilty with a Waiver of Your Right to a Speedy Trial:

- All payments for waiverable tickets and all other payments should be made online, or over the phone at 1-866-895-0198 or by mailing a money order to 19 N. Canal St., Newton Falls, OH 44444, no personal or business checks.
 - To request a continuance, call the Court Monday – Friday, 8:00 a.m. – 4:00 p.m. at 330-872-0232.
 - Not Guilty Plea and Waiver of Time forms are available online at this website, under “Forms”;
7. Most Probation appointments will be conducted by telephone at 330-872-1798. Probationers are to call their Probation Officer for instructions regarding their individual situation;
8. E-filings are being accepted online at our website or you may fax any filing to 330-872-3899. Forms for individuals for filings are available online at our website for Traffic, Criminal and Civil cases;
9. Judicial and clerk’s staff, attorneys, witnesses, jurors and security personnel who exhibit signs of illness shall notify their employing or reporting authority by telephone or email and shall not come in to the courthouse or report for duty unless specifically instructed to do so by the employing or reporting authority. Any person employed in the courthouse may be subject to health screening or testing, if testing is available, and exclusion from admission based upon the results of such screening or testing;
10. All criminal proceedings will be reviewed on a case-by-case basis, with an emphasis on expediting those cases involving incarcerated individuals.
11. Further, all civil proceedings will be reviewed on a case-by-case basis.

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IT IS SO ORDERED:

Date: 3/19/20



JUDGE PHILIP M. VIGORY



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