

**EIGHTH JUDICIAL DISTRICT COVID-19 NOTICE**

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The 8<sup>th</sup> Judicial District of Wisconsin is issuing this general notice, described in greater detail below, to provide direction and procedure as it relates to Court operations in response to the recent outbreak of Coronavirus 2019 (COVID-19).

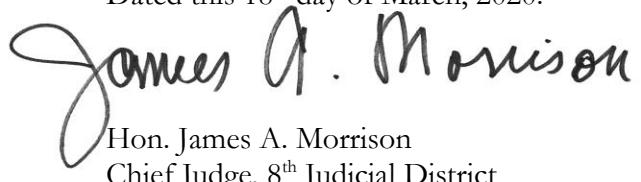
On March 17, 2020 the Director of State Courts issued AB 20-06 directing that circuit courts reduce court hearings to essential functions only. The directive is that the circuit courts remain open to the public but will only have limited critical day-to-day functions available.

The 8<sup>th</sup> Judicial District Courts have agreed that the following hearings are essential to maintain the critical day-to-day operations of the courts:

- 1) In custody defendants, bond/bail (Riverside) hearings, preliminary hearings with time limits, review of sentencing after revocation hearings
- 2) Juvenile proceedings limited to JV/JC hearings
- 3) Termination of Parental Rights hearings
- 4) Mental Commitments and Guardianship cases
- 5) Family law cases - Restraining order hearings, temporary order hearings if placement is at issue (Wis. Stat. §767.225(am)); enforcement of physical placement orders (Wis. Stat. §767.471(5)); relocation motions (Wis. Stat. §767.481(2))
- 6) Criminal Jury Trials with speedy trial demands will be reviewed on a case-by-case basis.
- 7) Individual judges retain their authority to make changes to these guidelines as the judge determines as necessary.

These policies are emergency and temporary in nature, effective from the date of this order until at least April 17, 2020, and likely thereafter.

Dated this 18<sup>th</sup> day of March, 2020.

  
Hon. James A. Morrison  
Chief Judge, 8<sup>th</sup> Judicial District