

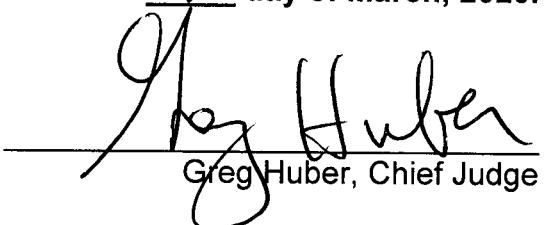
Dated this 17th day of March, 2020.

BY THE COURT:

Michael K. Moran

Michael K. Moran, Acting Presiding Judge
Marathon County Circuit Court

Approved and adopted by Chief Judge 9th
Judicial District this 17th day of March, 2020.



Greg Huber, Chief Judge

STATE OF WISCONSIN

CIRCUIT COURT

MARATHON COUNTY

ORDER REGARDING EMERGENCY TEMPORARY MEASURES

The Marathon County Circuit Court is issuing the attached order to provide directions for processing and essential functions in the Court during the time period impacted by the COVID-19 pandemic. **This Order is an Emergency and Temporary Measure only effective from March 18, 2020 and until further order of the Court.**

The Marathon County Courthouse remains open and any change of status will be noticed on the Marathon County Clerk of Court website www.co.marathon.wi.us/Departments/ClerkofCourts.aspx.

The World Health Organization declared a global pandemic of COVID-19 due to widespread human infection worldwide. We are monitoring this situation and are committed to open access to our courts and service to the public, and to protect the

health and safety of the public, litigants, judges, court staff, security, attorneys, judges, other participants in court proceedings and all other persons using court facilities.

This order is in place to ensure continuous performance of the court's essential functions and operations, and mitigate risk to the public, employees, lawyers, litigants and jurors. The order incorporates videoconferencing and teleconferencing use to minimize contact, and follow social distancing practices. This Order temporarily suspends all non-essential court functions, reduces the need for transports and attempts to reduce jail population for the protection of law enforcement and defendants.

For more information on any specific case, please call the Branch Office to which the case is assigned. Contact information for the Branches is as follows:

Branch 1 – 715-261-1335

Branch 2 – 715-261-1350

Branch 3 – 715-261-1360

Branch 4 – 715-261-1370

Branch 5 – 715-261-1381

Court Commissioner's Office – 715-261-1380

**TEMPORARY AND EMERGENCY GUIDELINES FOR PROCEEDINGS FOR
CRIMINAL CASES**

1. This coronavirus health situation constitutes good cause for all proceedings involving out-of-custody defendants to be suspended until after May 15, 2020, or until further Order of the Court.
2. Any non-evidentiary hearing that can be done by telephone or videoconference will proceed as scheduled, including but not limited to scheduling conferences, status conferences and pre-trial conferences.
3. Indigency hearings shall be held by telephone; the defendant must file their financial disclosure statement at least 48 hours prior to the hearing.
4. Judicial Assistants will be placing matters on calendar call to reschedule.

**TEMPORARY AND EMERGENCY GUIDELINES FOR PROCEEDINGS FOR
FAMILY CASES**

1. All contested matters requiring in-person appearances including contested divorces, contested custody and placement hearings, or any hearing where evidence will be taken by other than telephonic means and all mediation matters are suspended until after May 15, 2020, or until further Order of the Court.
2. Any hearing that can be done by phone will proceed as scheduled, including but not limited to name changes, scheduling conferences, status conferences, non-evidentiary motion hearings.
3. Name changes: Notices of publication must be on file with the Court at or before the date of the hearing on the name change for the hearing to occur.
4. All pro se divorces shall be adjourned until after May 15, 2020, or until further Order of the Court.
5. Child support enforcement, establishment, paternity, and modification hearings brought by the Marathon County Child Support Agency shall be held as currently scheduled. Appearances for these hearings shall be held by telephone until further Order of the Court.
6. Temporary order hearings with at least one party represented by counsel may be held by telephone.

**TEMPORARY AND EMERGENCY GUIDELINES FOR PROCEEDINGS FOR
PROCEEDINGS FOR CIVIL, PROBATE & SMALL CLAIMS CASES**

LARGE CLAIM CIVIL AND PROBATE

1. All matters requiring in-person appearances including jury trials, court trials, or other contested or potentially contested hearings where evidence will be taken by other than telephonic means are suspended until after May 15, 2020, or until further Order of the Court. Any such matters currently set for a date on or prior to May 15, 2020, will be rescheduled by the Judicial Assistant.
2. Between now and May 15, 2020, or further Order of the Court, any non-evidentiary hearing that can be done by phone will proceed as scheduled, including but not limited to scheduling conferences, status conferences, pre-trial conferences, motion hearings, oral decisions. Any matter may be rescheduled at the discretion of the Judge assigned to such matter if the Judge believes that an in-person appearance should be required.

INJUNCTIONS

1. All petitions for Domestic Violence Injunctions, Child Abuse Injunctions, Harassment Injunctions and Temporary Restraining Orders shall be heard as scheduled in person or by telephone.

SMALL CLAIMS

1. All small claims appearances are suspended until May 15, 2020, or until further Order of the Court. Any such matters currently set for a date on or prior to May 15, 2020, will be rescheduled by the Judicial Assistant via written notice.

**TEMPORARY AND EMERGENCY ORDERS FOR
PROCEEDINGS ASSIGNED TO JUVENILE CASES**

1. Temporary Physical Custody hearings shall be conducted in person unless and until such time as videoconferencing is available, or as otherwise ordered by the court.
2. Cases with statutory time limits that are set for a plea or dispositional hearing shall be held by telephone. The court will make an on-the-record finding of good cause if it determines it is appropriate to set over the matter. Appearances for that on-the-record hearing may be waived at the court's discretion.
3. Permanency hearings shall be held by telephone unless otherwise ordered by the court.
4. Hearings related to requests for revisions of disposition; requests for extension of dispositional orders; requests for change of placement; requests for sanctions shall be by telephone. The court will make an on-the-record finding of good cause if it determines it is appropriate to set over the matter. Appearance for that on-the-record hearing maybe waived at the court's discretion.
5. Court trials/Fact Findings will be rescheduled to a date after May 15, 2020, unless otherwise ordered by the court.
6. Termination of parental rights hearings shall proceed as scheduled, with telephone or video conference appearances to occur when available. All contested hearings related to termination of parental rights petitions, including jury trials, court trials, or fact-finding hearings, shall be rescheduled to a date after May 15, 2020. If a good cause finding is required, it shall be made on the record with appearances waived as necessary.

7. Minor guardianship cases shall proceed as scheduled, with telephone or video conference appearances to occur when available. All contested hearings related to minor guardianship petitions, including court trials and motion hearings, shall be rescheduled to a date after May 15, 2020. If a good cause finding is required, it shall be made on the record with appearances waived as necessary.

**GUARDIANSHIP/PROTECTIVE PLACEMENT AND
MENTAL COMMITMENT HEARINGS**

1. All Chapter 51 Mental Commitment Hearings shall be via videoconference or telephone, if possible and as permitted, between now and May 15, 2020, or until further Order of the Court. All Emergency Protective Placement Probable Cause and Final Hearings shall be via videoconference or telephone, if possible and as permitted, between now and May 15, 2020, or until further Order of the Court.
2. Contested *Watts* hearings are suspended until after May 15, 2020, or until further Order of the Court. Any such matters currently set for a date on or prior to May 15, 2020, will be rescheduled by Corporation Counsel.
3. Guardianship/Protective Placement new filings will be scheduled after May 15, 2020, unless further notice or changed by the Court. Hearings with required time limits shall be addressed as scheduled with telephone or videoconference appearances as required by the Court.

WEDDINGS

1. All weddings held in the courthouse are suspended until after May 15, 2020, or until further Order of the Court.