

**COVID-19 EMERGENCY ORDERS**

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Dear Attorneys:

On March 17, 2020, at about 4:50 p.m. the Court system was notified that as of March 17, 2020 at 5:00 p.m. through April 3, 2020 at 5:00 p.m. the Wisconsin Court System will be closing most offices to the public and offering only essential, time sensitive functions. (We expect this time frame to be extended).

The Circuit Courts are scheduled to remain physically open to the public, but will only have critical day to day functions available. To this end, we have decided that any case that you have scheduled in Marinette County between now and May 1, 2020 will be converted to a conference call for the purpose of rescheduling. We ask that you have your client on the phone with you in a conference call, or in your office, and then call the Courtroom in Marinette. At that time, we will then reschedule your case.

For those people who are in custody, however, we will continue to hold those hearings as scheduled, i.e., everyone should be in the Courtroom so that we can conduct our business, unless video conferencing is appropriate.

It is hoped that this will reduce the number of people in the Courtroom which should reduce the risk of infection to litigants, attorneys, court personnel and the general public who utilize the Court system.

If you have any questions regarding your particular case, please do not hesitate to contact us at 715-732-7523 and Jackie will get a message to us.

Sincerely,

Judge David G. Miron  
Judges James A. Morrison

Br. I call in number is: 715-732-7411

Br. II call in number is: 715-732-7429

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## **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).

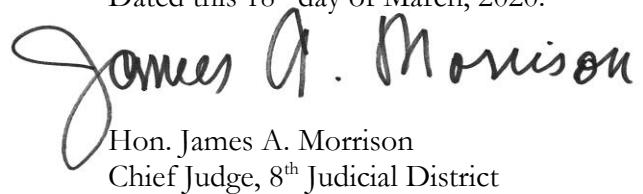
On March 17, 2020 the Director of State Courts issued AB 20-06 directing that circuit courts reduce court hearings to essential functions only. The directive is that the circuit courts remain open to the public but will only have limited critical day-to-day functions available.

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