SUMMARY OF PLAN TO REOPEN COURTS EIGHTH JUDICIAL DISTRICT

On behalf of the judiciary serving the Eighth Judicial District, I submit this plan for reopening our courts pursuant to Supreme Court Administrative Order No. ADM 2000-00428 (SCO), filed April 24, 2020. Each judge serving their respective court submitted a proposal after lengthy review and discussion of said order. I have attached a proposed plan for each court authored by the respective judge. I am also providing a summary of the procedures that were uniformly adopted by all to comport with the SCO.

PREFERENCE OF REMOTELY CONDUCTED COURT

This district recognizes the primary goal in creating these restrictions to fully opening court. Attracting or even compelling large numbers of the public to enter our courthouses and courtrooms creates a public health risk to all present, entering, or leaving the facility. Further, large assemblies of any kind increase the chances that the pandemic will continue to grow and remain for longer times. Knowing this, our judges have all adopted various levels of technological support in an effort to conduct some semblance of court while strictly abiding by the SCOs. Clerks, jail administrators, and most lawyers working in this district have practiced and acquired the necessary competence to conduct court remotely, primarily through Zoom application. Extensively using this tool, we have kept the public's need to enter our courthouses to a minimum and we will continue to do

so. When courtroom access is unavoidable, the following processes are established and will control over any and all conflicting language in the individual court plans.

FACILITY SAFETY AND HEALTH

All county mayors, executives and sheriffs have personally committed to the most sanitary and healthy facility possible by providing additional cleaning efforts consistent with the CDC guidelines. The cleaning upgrade includes courtrooms and all rooms and areas supporting court functions. Special orders for PPE (protective masks and gloves) have been placed in all counties and these supplies will be made available to all who enter the facility. Surface cleaning products and hand sanitizer in adequate supply will be available in each courtroom.

There will be only one point-of-entry to each courthouse or facility with court personnel present at all times to check and advise any person seeking entry. Each courthouse currently has clearly posted signage limiting public entry. With the reopening all courthouses and facilities will have clear signage instructing persons to exercise proper social distancing (minimum six (6) feet separation), stay in the designated areas until notified, and no entry permitted until their particular case is called. Each reopening court has committed to health screening of all entering, allowing only asymptomatic or otherwise healthy persons to enter. Court bailiffs and, when available, medical personnel, will meet each person before entry into the building. These "entry personnel" will check the temperature, observe the

general health and demeanor, and inquire into any recent travel or placement of the person. If the person has any higher-risk factors, the judge will be notified and discretion is granted to deny entry and, if necessary, reschedule the proceeding.

HEARING PROCEDURE

As detailed in the specific court's proposal, reopening courts have rigid restrictions on the conduct of all proceedings and the number of people in attendance. General sessions courts, in particular, have uniformly adopted a "announce arrival and wait" procedure. Any person present for court will notify the entry personnel of their presence and the reason for attendance. The name will be taken and the person will be sent back out of the facility to wait for their case. Various methods will be used to contact said person when they are to enter, such as mobile call or text, external courthouse speakers for auditory calling, and designated parking locations with entry personnel retrieving the person when needed.

Our courts recognize the need to limit the number of people in the courtroom. The reopening of courts will permit no more than ten (10) people in any courtroom in the judicial district at a time, excluding the judge, court personnel, and court security. Necessary parties such as litigants and representing attorneys will remain in the courtroom but will exit the building upon completion of business. All persons remaining in the courtroom will use proper social distancing,

separating by a least six (6) feet. Counsel tables and movable furniture will be positioned to promote adequate separation. Hand sanitizer and surface cleaning products will be readily available and used liberally throughout the court session.

GRAND JURY PROCEDURE

Grand Juries will convene during this reopening stage under strict guidelines. All grand jurors have been notified of the newly-scheduled date. Each was also informed that anyone suffering illness symptoms or simply feeling uncomfortable serving under these circumstances would be excused from that session.

Upon arrival, jurors will be screened as set out for all persons entering the facility, including health screens. They will be escorted safely distanced from one another to the largest courtroom available and seated with spacing of the jurors consistent with social distancing principles. Protection masks and gloves will be provided, along with hand sanitizer and surface cleaning products.

The nature of Grand Jury proceedings create a safer court environment. Private hearings and limited participation by non-jurors (witnesses, prosecuting attorneys) promise very limited public access. However, every person entering these proceedings will be subject to the same process for entry as described above and upon completion of that person's business, the person will leave the facility immediately.

In conclusion, please know that all of the courts in this district have given great thought and reflection in creating these proposals. County resources, caseloads, courthouse traffic and available court times and locations were considered in reaching each judge's decision. In the end, these proposals became a collaboration toward a single objective: keeping courts as safe to the public as possible while expanding operations from what had been reduced to a crawl. We hope this proposal reflects the letter and spirit of the SCO and request permission to reopen our courts in this manner.

Thank you,

E. Shayne Sexton, Presiding Judge, Eighth Judicial District

And on behalf of:

Elizabeth Asbury, Chancery Court John McAfee, Circuit Court Greg Miller, Child Support Magistrate Amanda Sammons, Campbell County General Sessions Court Robert Estep, Claiborne County General Sessions Court Todd Burnett, Fentress County General Sessions Court Jamie Cotton, Scott County General Sessions Court Daryl Edmondson, Union County General Sessions Court Reid Troutman, Town of Caryville Court Rob Asbury, Town of Jacksboro Court Don Moses, City of Jellico Court Kathy Parrott, City of LaFollette Court Matt McClung, City of Cumberland Gap Court David Bunch, City of Tazewell/New Tazewell Court Tom Potter, City of Jamestown Court Philip Kazee, Town of Oneida Court Darrick Edmondson, Town of Plainview Court

TO THE TENNESSEE SUPREME COURT

PLAN FOR THE REOPENING OF ALL COURTS OF THE EIGHTH JUDICIAL DISTRICT

(CAMPBELL, CLAIBORNE, FENTRESS, SCOTT, AND UNION COUNTIES)

EFFECTIVE THROUGH MAY 31, 2020

E. SHAYNE SEXTON, PRESIDING JUDGE
EIGHTH JUDICIAL DISTRICT

Table of Contents

SUMMARY OF PLAN TO REOPEN COURTS

STATE COURT PLANS

- 1) Chancery Court
- 2) Circuit Court
- 3) Criminal Court (with Public Defender letter)
- 4) Child Support Magistrate

COUNTY AND MUNICIPAL COURT PLANS

- 1) Campbell County
 - a. General Sessions Court Criminal
 - b. General Sessions Court Civil and Juvenile
 - c. Town of Caryville
 - d. Town of Jacksboro
 - e. City of Jellico
 - f. LaFollette City Court
- 2) Claiborne County
 - a. General Sessions and Juvenile Court
 - b. City of Cumberland Gap
 - c. City of Tazewell/New Tazewell
- 3) Fentress County
 - a. General Sessions and Juvenile Courts
 - b. Jamestown Municipal Courts
 - c. Fentress County Executive Support Commitment
- 4) Scott County
 - a. General Sessions, Juvenile, and Probate Court
 - b. Town of Oneida
- 5) Union County
 - a. General Sessions and Juvenile Court
 - b. City of Maynardville
 - c. Town of Plainview

SUMMARY OF PLAN TO REOPEN COURTS EIGHTH JUDICIAL DISTRICT

On behalf of the judiciary serving the Eighth Judicial District, I submit this plan for reopening our courts pursuant to Supreme Court Administrative Order No. ADM 2000-00428 (SCO), filed April 24, 2020. Each judge serving their respective court submitted a proposal after lengthy review and discussion of said order. I have attached a proposed plan for each court authored by the respective judge. I am also providing a summary of the procedures that were uniformly adopted by all to comport with the SCO.

PREFERENCE OF REMOTELY CONDUCTED COURT

This district recognizes the primary goal in creating these restrictions to fully opening court. Attracting or even compelling large numbers of the public to enter our courthouses and courtrooms creates a public health risk to all present, entering, or leaving the facility. Further, large assemblies of any kind increase the chances that the pandemic will continue to grow and remain for longer times. Knowing this, our judges have all adopted various levels of technological support in an effort to conduct some semblance of court while strictly abiding by the SCOs. Clerks, jail administrators, and most lawyers working in this district have practiced and acquired the necessary competence to conduct court remotely, primarily through Zoom application. Extensively using this tool, we have kept the public's need to enter our courthouses to a minimum and we will continue to do

so. When courtroom access is unavoidable, the following processes are established and will control over any and all conflicting language in the individual court plans.

FACILITY SAFETY AND HEALTH

All county mayors, executives and sheriffs have personally committed to the most sanitary and healthy facility possible by providing additional cleaning efforts consistent with the CDC guidelines. The cleaning upgrade includes courtrooms and all rooms and areas supporting court functions. Special orders for PPE (protective masks and gloves) have been placed in all counties and these supplies will be made available to all who enter the facility. Surface cleaning products and hand sanitizer in adequate supply will be available in each courtroom.

There will be only one point-of-entry to each courthouse or facility with court personnel present at all times to check and advise any person seeking entry. Each courthouse currently has clearly posted signage limiting public entry. With the reopening all courthouses and facilities will have clear signage instructing persons to exercise proper social distancing (minimum six (6) feet separation), stay in the designated areas until notified, and no entry permitted until their particular case is called. Each reopening court has committed to health screening of all entering, allowing only asymptomatic or otherwise healthy persons to enter. Court bailiffs and, when available, medical personnel, will meet each person before entry into the building. These "entry personnel" will check the temperature, observe the

general health and demeanor, and inquire into any recent travel or placement of the person. If the person has any higher-risk factors, the judge will be notified and discretion is granted to deny entry and, if necessary, reschedule the proceeding.

HEARING PROCEDURE

As detailed in the specific court's proposal, reopening courts have rigid restrictions on the conduct of all proceedings and the number of people in attendance. General sessions courts, in particular, have uniformly adopted a "announce arrival and wait" procedure. Any person present for court will notify the entry personnel of their presence and the reason for attendance. The name will be taken and the person will be sent back out of the facility to wait for their case. Various methods will be used to contact said person when they are to enter, such as mobile call or text, external courthouse speakers for auditory calling, and designated parking locations with entry personnel retrieving the person when needed.

Our courts recognize the need to limit the number of people in the courtroom. The reopening of courts will permit no more than ten (10) people in any courtroom in the judicial district at a time, excluding the judge, court personnel, and court security. Necessary parties such as litigants and representing attorneys will remain in the courtroom but will exit the building upon completion of business. All persons remaining in the courtroom will use proper social distancing,

separating by a least six (6) feet. Counsel tables and movable furniture will be positioned to promote adequate separation. Hand sanitizer and surface cleaning products will be readily available and used liberally throughout the court session.

GRAND JURY PROCEDURE

Grand Juries will convene during this reopening stage under strict guidelines. All grand jurors have been notified of the newly-scheduled date. Each was also informed that anyone suffering illness symptoms or simply feeling uncomfortable serving under these circumstances would be excused from that session.

Upon arrival, jurors will be screened as set out for all persons entering the facility, including health screens. They will be escorted safely distanced from one another to the largest courtroom available and seated with spacing of the jurors consistent with social distancing principles. Protection masks and gloves will be provided, along with hand sanitizer and surface cleaning products.

The nature of Grand Jury proceedings create a safer court environment. Private hearings and limited participation by non-jurors (witnesses, prosecuting attorneys) promise very limited public access. However, every person entering these proceedings will be subject to the same process for entry as described above and upon completion of that person's business, the person will leave the facility immediately.

In conclusion, please know that all of the courts in this district have given great thought and reflection in creating these proposals. County resources, caseloads, courthouse traffic and available court times and locations were considered in reaching each judge's decision. In the end, these proposals became a collaboration toward a single objective: keeping courts as safe to the public as possible while expanding operations from what had been reduced to a crawl. We hope this proposal reflects the letter and spirit of the SCO and request permission to reopen our courts in this manner.

Thank you,

E. Shayne Sexton, Presiding Judge, Eighth Judicial District

And on behalf of:

Elizabeth Asbury, Chancery Court John McAfee, Circuit Court Greg Miller, Child Support Magistrate Amanda Sammons, Campbell County General Sessions Court Robert Estep, Claiborne County General Sessions Court **Todd Burnett, Fentress County General Sessions Court** Jamie Cotton, Scott County General Sessions Court Daryl Edmondson, Union County General Sessions Court Reid Troutman, Town of Caryville Court Rob Asbury, Town of Jacksboro Court Don Moses, City of Jellico Court Kathy Parrott, City of LaFollette Court Matt McClung, City of Cumberland Gap Court David Bunch, City of Tazewell/New Tazewell Court Tom Potter, City of Jamestown Court Philip Kazee, Town of Oneida Court Darrick Edmondson, Town of Plainview Court

IN THE CHANCERY COURT FOR THE 8th JUDICIAL DISTRICT (CAMPBELL, CLAIBORNE, FENTRESS, SCOTT AND UNION)

ORDER OF COURT PROCEEDINGS UPON APPROVAL OF PLAN BY THE TENNESSEE SUPREME COURT

In accordance with the ORDER MODIFYING SUSPENSION OF IN-PERSON COURT PROCEEDINGS AND FURTHER EXTENSION OF DEADLINES issued on April 24, 2020 in Case No: ADM2020-00428 IN RE: COVID-19 PANDEMIC from the Supreme Court of Tennessee at Nashville, the Chancery Court for the 8th Judicial District has established the following guidelines and restrictions for operations of this Court until May 31, 2020 or as otherwise directed by the Tennessee Supreme Court:

I. HEARING METHODS

PREFERRED:

This Court will utilize available technology to limit in-person hearings to the
extent possible as requested in the April 24, 2020 Tennessee Supreme Court
Order No: ADM2020-00428 via telephone conference or video conference. This
is the preferred manner for case resolution at this time.

IN-PERSON IF NO OTHER OPTION:

- 1. For matters that cannot be resolved via telephone or video conference, an inperson court hearing may be held with approval of the Chancellor. It is the intent
 of this Court to conduct in-person hearings only in circumstances that justify a
 hearing at this time such as matters impacting children, disabled or incompetent
 individuals, matters involving potential hardship, family matters, or matters with
 a compelling justification.
- 2. All in person hearings will be scheduled on a time sensitive docket, if necessary.

Prior to personally appearing, call the Clerk & Master's Office or your attorney to confirm the exact time for your hearing.

II. ENTERING THE FACILITY AND SURROUNDING AREAS

- This Court will require compliance with the provisions set forth in the General Sessions Courts' plan for each county pertaining to entrance into the courthouse/justice center including but not limited too:
 - (a) Health checks;
 - (b) Questionnaire requirements;
 - (c) Social distancing requirements;
 - (d) Use of masks/face shields;
 - (e) Plan for registering for case, providing telephone or other contact information, and waiting in car or designated area for the case to be called;
 - (f) Number of people in staging or lobby area; and
 - (g) Any other requirements by each particular county.

III. INSIDE COURTROOM

- 1. No more than ten (10) people inside the courtroom at a time;
- 2. Wearing a mask/face shield is recommended but not required:
- 3. One (1) case will be heard at a time;
- 4. Entrance to the courtroom will be permitted by the Court Bailiff or Court Clerk;
- 5. Social distancing will be strictly enforced;
- 6. Hand sanitizer will be available for use; and
- Upon conclusion of your case, follow the directions of the Bailiff or court staff for instructions for prompt exit from the building.

IV. OTHER ISSUES

- Maintenance staff for each facility will follow a strict schedule for disinfecting the
 facility in accordance with the plan submitted or incorporated in the General
 Sessions Courts' plan for each respective county.
- Masks and/or face shields will be made available in the counties for which it is
 feasible. For Chancery Court, it is recommended but not required for individuals
 to wear a mask.
- Any party or attorney shall call the Clerk & Master's office if he/she feels sick and the case will be heard by electronic means or reset.

This plan is being submitted so as to be in compliance with paragraph 3 of the referenced April 24, 2020 ORDER.

Elizabeth C. Asbury

Chance lor-8th Judicial District

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT (CIVIL) OF THE 8th JUDICIAL DISTRICT (CAMPBELL, CLAIBORNE, FENTRESS, SCOTT, AND UNION COUNTIES) OF TENNESSEE

IN	RE:	COV	ID-19	PA	ND	EMI	C
414	L\L.	uur	110-13	10		TOTALL	u

ORDER CONTINUING SUSPENSION OF IN-PERSON COURT PROCEEDINGS

On March 13, 2020, in response to the COVID-19 pandemic, the Tennessee Supreme Court declared a state of emergency and subsequently issued an order on March 25, 2020, suspending all in-person proceedings in all state and local courts through Thursday, April 30, 2020, subject to certain constitutional and emergency exceptions. The Tennessee Supreme Court order of March 25, 2020 is incorporated herein by reference and attached hereto as Exhibit A.

The Tennessee Supreme Court on April 24, 2020, issued an order modifying its March 25, 2020, order by suspending all in–person proceedings until May 31, 2020, subject to the constitutional and emergency guidelines and restrictions set forth in its order of March 25, 2020. Also, the order of April 24, 2020, suspended all jury trials until July 3, 2020. (However, the Tennessee Supreme Court order of April 24, 2020, provides that the Chief Justice may approve in-person court proceedings, only after the submission of a comprehensive written plan, on some non-emergency matters.) The Tennessee Supreme Court order of April 24, 2020, is incorporated herein by reference and attached hereto as Exhibit B.

The Circuit Court (civil) of the 8th Judicial District is open and will remain open under all circumstances, subject, of course, to the directives of the Tennessee Supreme Court.

IT IS THEREFORE ORDERED that all in-person proceedings in the Circuit Court (civil) of the 8th Judicial District shall be suspended until May 31, 2020, subject to the constitutional and emergency exceptions articulated in the Tennessee Supreme Court orders of March 25 and April 24, 2020.

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that all jury trials shall be suspended until July 3, 2020.

It is so ORDERED: April 27, 2020.

Judge John D. McAfee	



E. SHAYNE SEXTON

COUNTIES SERVED: CAMPBELL COUNTY CLAIBORNE COUNTY FENTRESS COUNTY SCOTT COUNTY UNION COUNTY

CRIMINAL COURT JUDGE
STATE OF TENNESSEE
EIGHTH JUDICIAL DISTRICT

CAMPBELL COUNTY JUSTICE CENTER P.O. BOX 852 JACKSBORO, TN 37757 Telephone: (423) 907-7503 Fax: (423) 907-7505

> DEANNA WALDEN Administrativo Assistant

Criminal Court

The Criminal Court rooms in all counties will not open to the public until the current Tennessee Supreme Court (TSC) order expires and until further notice. Thus far, only inmate cases have been handled remotely, through teleconference application (Zoom) or other non in-person methods. This process will continue but will be expanded to non-incarcerated defendants.

I am revising the calendar for the entire district and will provide dates and times of court availability in each county. Further, I have asked the defense bar to create a list of all clients including the status of the case (arraignment, motion, plea/set, etc.) and the particular client's access to wifi/internet. The parties will submit a docket request for a date and time available for that county. The lawyers for each side are responsible for providing remote access to all witnesses and necessary or interested parties. The hearing participants will be identified on the docket request. Using the docket request information, my office will schedule a ZOOM court session and "invite" those identified on the request. All invited connect in on the court time and we conduct the necessary business.

As an aside, I am strongly encouraging the resetting of cases to a more conventional court process when possible. However, there are cases that, for various reasons, must be addressed now and this is the best option with a closed courtroom policy.

Recovery Court

We have been, and will continue to be, fully remote in Recovery Court (RC). Our team members have had no trouble participating in the staffing portion of this process. While we are in the closed portion of the RC session, participants are in a "waiting room" preparing for the open session. When we conclude staffing, we open up the meeting to the participants. They are then populated to the ZOOM session and the docket is called to its conclusion.

This method has been surprisingly successful and is the framework for the current Criminal Court proposal.



Defenders
Dale Potter
Tina L. Sloan
William Jones
Robert Scott
Howard R. Ellis
Mark W. Strange
LaTasha H.B. Wassom

Case Manager/Investigator
Crystal L. Dyer

Office Manager Melissa M. Daugherty

Matt Roberts

Campbell County
Coordinator
Laura M. Collins

Claiborne & Union County Coordinator Nanette Tackett

Fentress & Scott County Coordinator Teresa A. Terry

Public Desender

Eighth Judicial District bell, Claiborne, Fentress, Scott and Union Counties



April 29, 2020

Hon. E. Shayne Sexton, Judge Jacksboro, TN

Judge Sexton,

First, I want you to know that I much appreciate the opportunity to be included in the meetings you have held this week with our District's General Sessions Judges, Sheriffs, Clerks, and District Attorneys to discuss each county's proposals to deal with the ongoing COVID 19 situation. It is clear from these meetings that while each county may differ in some details of its plan to address the issue, we all share the same goal and spirit of reaching that goal, which is increasing public access to our courts while ensuring public safety for everyone involved.

As you know, my office has, and will continue to, cooperate fully in all efforts to mitigate the effects of the pandemic. While our offices remain closed to the public, our support staff continues to work remotely from home, and we have maintained contact with the vast majority of our clients. We have continued to appear in court throughout the District and zealously represent our clients. We have invested in technology to enable us to be more effective, and we are participating fully in all aspects of remote court proceedings.

As we move toward opening access to our courts more to the public, we will strive to continue to be flexible in our response to the needs of the people we serve.

I want to re-emphasize that we have maintained contact with most of our clients throughout this situation, and we are compiling a detailed list of clients and their remote access status as you have directed. I should have that to you by the middle of next week.

Sincerely, Leif Jeffers District Public Defender

OFFICE OF MAGISTRATE FOR CHILD SUPPORT, 8TH JUDICIAL DISTRICT JACKSBORO, TENNESSEE

Hon. E. Shayne Sexton

Judge of the Criminal Court, 8th Judicial District

P.O. Box 852

Jacksboro, TN 37757

Dear Sir:

Please find enclosed the current plan for the Magistrate's Child Support Court procedures in consideration of the Tennessee State Supreme Court Order No. ADM2020-00428 as amended on April 24, 2020.

- 1. All in-court proceedings are suspended through May, 31, 2020.
- 2. The Child Support Court is not issuing any Attachments for arrest at least through May 31, 2020.
- 3. All current outstanding Attachments for arrest have been converted to citations and no pending criminal or civil contempt sentences will be executed at least through May 31, 2020. Further, anyone in jail with a current child support hold has had the child support hold released.
- 4. The use of alternate electronic means is encouraged although access to such technology is limited. Telephonic hearings are available but none are currently set. Some cases have been resolved through telephonic means by settlements worked out by the Child Support staff and approved by the court.
- 5. Planning for in-court proceedings when allowed by the State Supreme Court is ongoing but Includes the following: Use of masks in court by court staff and Magistrate; limiting the size of the dockets to reduce crowding in part by limiting enforcement actions to such time as it appears safe to resume incarceration except for administrative remedies such as wage assignments, etc.; prohibiting people from sitting on the front row of the public seating area in the court room; seating people in alternate rows in the public seating area of the court room; offering people the option of leaving a phone number and waiting in a car or other safe location away from the court room until their case is ready to proceed; using available technology to allow off-site appearance if the right to a public hearing can be properly preserved; scheduling specific times for appearance to reduce crowding.

I have been in on-going consultation with the Child Support staff to discuss ideas to be as active as possible while complying with all state directives and preserving the safety of all concerned.

As always any ideas you or the other Judges might have would be greatly appreciated and if there is anything I can do or any further action required please let me know. My contact information is:

Gregory K. Miller
402 Perkins Lane
Jacksboro, TN 37757
Phone/text 865-617-1317 to leave a voice message 423-562-4830
Email campbellcountyhistorian@comcast.net

It is faster to use the above contact information but my non-home office information is:

P.O. Box 101 Jacksboro, TN 37757 Phone 423-566-9715

Respectfully,

Hon. Gregory K. Miller

Staffellie

Magistrate, 8th Judicial District

PROPOSED PLAN OF MAGISTRATE GREG MILLER FOR CHILD SUPPORT COURT

Proposed plan for conducting in-person hearings in the Child Support Magistrate's Court once approval is granted under the terms of the Tennessee State Supreme Court Order ADM 2020-00428.

For the Magistrate's Court for Child Support for the 8th Judicial District to continue until such time as proper authority declares the current emergency has ended and it is deemed safe to conduct the Court's business normally or as modified by this court or higher authority.

CONSIDERATIONS:

While the proceedings of this Court are very important, the Court recognizes a profound obligation to, as much as reasonably possible, provide a safe environment to conduct in-person court hearings for both staff and the public. During the current pandemic, the Court recognizes extraordinary steps are necessary to provide a safe environment. However, accomplishing these goals will require the cooperation of everyone involved including the public, county and court staff, the court and its officers and public officials with relevant responsibility. To accomplish these goals the Magistrate's Court will require the following.

1. Masks:

- a. The Magistrate, Assistant District Attorney and staff, court staff, attorneys and court officers will wear masks in the court room.
- b. If the county has masks available in sufficient quantity to provide to the public at no charge then masks should be made available to the general public. If masks are not available then those attending court will be encouraged to provide their own masks.

2. Health Checks:

- a. If the county has the resources to check temperatures by non-invasive means of those entering the courtroom then they should do so. People with an elevated temperature above 99 or such other amount as established by a medical professional qualified to make such determination shall be denied entrance and their contact information taken and their case will be continued. Anyone turned away should be advised to seek immediate medical attention.
- b. Anyone exhibiting respiratory symptoms or who has had a fever within 24 hours will be turned away after giving their contact information and advised to seek immediate medical attention.
- c. Anyone experiencing respiratory symptoms or fever is required to call the child support office or their attorney and their case will be continued.

3. Sterile Environment:

a. The county custodial staff shall make every effort to sterilize the court room before and after each use. Particular attention should be given to sterilizing door knobs, seats, desks, tables, electronic equipment, light switches, and any other surface likely to be touched. If the county has the available resources then hand sanitizer should be provided in each court room during proceedings.

4. Seating:

- a. Number allowed in Court Room: Each county has court rooms varying in size from large to very small. The number of people allowed in the court room at any time must be limited during the current emergency. The absolute number allowed in the audience portion of the court room will vary depending on court room size but will not exceed 20. For very small court rooms the maximum number allowed would be 10 or less depending on the size of the room. These numbers are subject to change if a qualified medical professional determines a different number should be used or higher authority changes these numbers.
- b. Social Distancing: The audience will not be allowed to sit on the front row(s) and will be seated on every other row to help maintain distancing.
- c. Everyone will be given the option of leaving a phone number and waiting in a car or other safe location and will be required to do so if the maximum safe number of people in the court room is exceeded. No more than 10 people should be allowed at any time in the outer lobby or hall way and should be required to maintain social distancing.

5. Further actions of the Court:

- a. Electronic means will be encouraged if possible to avoid in-person hearings.
- b. The court dockets will be greatly reduced for in-person hearings to keep crowd sizes within acceptable limits. There will be no limit on the number of cases that may be tried by remote electronic means unless technical issues necessitate limits.
- c. For the month of May, 2020, the type of hearings will be limited to setting support, modifying existing support orders, establishing paternity, and monitoring pending disability claims. These limits will be reevaluated month to month.
- d. Due to certain practical considerations, in-court proceedings will not resume for 3 or 4 business days after a plan to resume in-person proceedings is approved and notice of approval is received by the Magistrate.
- e. These rules are subject to change by this or a higher court as circumstances may require.
- f. Counties may impose additional requirements for entry to a court house/justice center if public safety requires and the court has approved such additional requirements.
- g. Those who are immuno-compromised or fall into a high risk category due to co-morbidities such as but not limited to, diabetes, heart conditions, taking drugs that suppress the immune system, taking chemo-therapy, being 60 years old or older, will be granted a continuance upon request without being required to appear in person until proper authority deems it safe. Anyone with such medical conditions choosing to appear in person assumes any risk of appearing and should understand they risk serious illness or death. No one in this category will be compelled to appear.
- 6. Disclaimer: Despite everyone's best efforts, no public space can be guaranteed to be completely safe. Everyone must take responsibility to protect themselves and others as much as reasonably possible by practicing safe hygiene practices such as but limited to washing hands, avoiding touching faces, wearing masks, practicing social distancing whenever possible, avoiding people if you are sick or have been exposed to anyone known to have covid-19 or exhibiting symptoms indicative of covid-19. It is the sincere wish of this court that everyone remains safe

and healthy. Any of these rules are subject to change as circumstances or higher authority may require.

100 g

IN THE GENERAL SESSIONS CRIMINAL, CIVIL, AND JUVENILE COURTS FOR CAMPBELL COUNTY, TENNESSEE

)
)
NOT FINAL UNTIL APPROVED
)
BY TENN. SUPREME COURT
)

ORDER OF COURT PROCEEDINGS FOR THE MONTH OF MAY 2020

There being an Order from the Tennessee Supreme Court limiting all in-person Court proceedings until certain procedural safeguards are put into place, the proceedings in Campbell County General Sessions Criminal, Civil and Juvenile Courts beginning May 1, 2020, are hereby modified as follows:

PREFERENCE FOR VIDEO CONFERENCING OF ALL HEARINGS

The Supreme Court has ordered that "Courts should continue to conduct as much business as possible by means other than in-person court proceedings." As a result, the preferred method at this time for holding any proceeding in the General Sessions or Juvenile Courts of Campbell County, Tennessee, shall be via video conferencing. More specifically, the Court prefers that all parties participate via "Zoom" video conferencing. The "Zoom" app is a free app available to download to any mobile device, tablet, or computer which allows internet access.

REGISTRATION PRIOR TO COURT IF ATTENDING COURT ELECTRONICALLY

Once the app is downloaded, the person wanting to participate electronically in Court must register to do so, prior to their court date. This can be accomplished in the following manner:

- Defendants who have an attorney must contact their attorney to register.
- Plaintiffs who have an attorney must contact their attorney to register.
- Victims or Witnesses on a criminal case must contact either the District Attorney's Office (423-562-4991) or the attorney who requested their appearance to register.
- DCS workers must contact their attorney to register.
- Others who do not have attorney or who do not fit one of the above descriptions can go to www.campbellcountycourts.com and complete and submit the "Contact" information to register, or may choose the way described in "Alternate Hearing Methods," below.

Prior to each General Sessions Court date in May 2020, the General Sessions docket shall be posted on the Courts' website at www.campbellcountycourts.com. All court participants in either General Sessions or Juvenile Court, whether they be attorneys, defendants, plaintiffs, victims, witnesses, case workers, or other interested parties, are expected to first consider whether they can appear electronically in Court rather than in-person on that particular case. Moreover, all participants are expected to appear electronically, rather than in-person, if they are able to do so.

If any person on any court date is unable to participate electronically, then the following steps shall be taken:

REGISTRATION PRIOR TO COURT IF ATTENDING IN-PERSON

The Clerk of the Court shall present a docket for each court date to the Security Officer at the entrance to the Justice Center and to the Judge's Office. Each party, victim, witness or other interested individual who is appearing in-person rather than appearing electronically for Court shall present themselves at the Justice Center entrance and register their name and mobile phone number with the officer stationed at the entrance door. The officer should also request from each person registering to indicate for which docketed case they are appearing. The officer will then notate the docket number for the stated case next to each name on the registration list and on the corresponding case on the docket. All registered parties shall be required to remain present outside of the building in their vehicles or in open spaces at least six (6) feet away from any other person.

Periodically the registering officer shall provide updated registration lists and dockets to the Judge. Copies will also be provided to counsel.

COURT PROCEEDINGS

The General Sessions/Juvenile Courtroom has rows of pews in the gallery where four (4) pews are individually marked with blue arrows on the floor. One (1) person may sit on one (1) pew marked with a blue arrow. Only one (1) person from any household or party or vehicle will be allowed in the courthouse at a time. If a party to a case is represented by counsel, then the Court will allow counsel in the courtroom, and the counsel may choose which member of that party or household will be permitted in the courtroom; however, once a limit of ten (10) total persons is reached in the General Sessions/Juvenile Courtroom (including the Judge, the Clerk, bailiff, lawyers, and court staff), no additional persons will be admitted without the express permission of the Judge and without the necessary exchange of persons in and out of the courtroom taking place to maintain the limit of ten (10) maximum persons permitted in the courtroom.

Once Court has opened, the Judge will notify court officers to call one (1) or more cases designated by the Judge. (More than one case may be called, depending on the number of

persons involved in each case who are physically present at the courthouse, but in no case will more than ten (10) persons be allowed in the courtroom). The parties, victims, witnesses, or other individuals will be contacted using the information previously registered by designated court personnel and one (1) person from that party will be requested to come to the front entrance. Only one (1) person from any household, party, or vehicle will be allowed in the courthouse at a time, and all persons must maintain a distance of at least six (6) feet away from any other person once they exit a vehicle.

Each individual shall have their temperature taken before being permitted to enter the courthouse. Any individual having a temperature of 99.5 degrees Fahrenheit or more shall not be permitted to enter the courthouse. The corresponding case will be continued to a future date as necessary. If individuals have a mask or a layered cloth which is able to cover their nose and mouth, then they should bring it with them to the courthouse and should wear it at all times while not inside the vehicle in which they arrived. Individuals must submit to a questionnaire/health screening prior to entry. Failure to do any of the mandatory conditions described in this paragraph will result in denial of admittance. Individuals may also be denied admittance based on their responses to the health screening.

Upon resolution of the first case (or cases), the parties, victims, witnesses, etc. involved in that case will be required to exit the courtroom and building in an orderly but immediate process, while staying at least six (6) feet apart from any other person at all times. Thereafter the next case(s) will be called.

While the in-person hearings are going on in the strictly limited fashion described above, simultaneously, the Court will be holding preliminary hearings, motion hearings, and arraignments on incarcerated defendants via video conferencing. The attorneys and inmates involved in those hearings will be present via video conferencing only, and it is recommended that hearings for non-incarcerated individuals be held in the same fashion. The in-person proceedings described above should only be a last resort, after all attempts at coordinating a hearing via video conferencing have failed.

Once one in-person hearing is concluded and the persons depart, the Judge shall at this point notify court personnel for the next case(s) to be called to begin the entry process outlined above. This process shall continue until all the scheduled cases are concluded or until Court recesses or adjourns, in the discretion of the Court.

COURT CONDUCT

On some court dates, while conducting cases as outlined above, it will be necessary for attorneys to have designated spaces to confer with their witnesses or clients or with unrepresented litigants. There are large benches in the hallway outside the courtroom and there is one long hallway between the Criminal Courtroom and the jail where this can be accomplished. The Attorney shall be at one end of the bench and the other person shall be at the opposite end; otherwise, the Attorney shall be at one end of the hallway and the other person shall be at least six (6) feet away from the Attorney. Attorneys for inmates participating via video conferencing

are already (or otherwise are expected to become), familiar with how to "host" the video conference so that the Court can be excluded from confidential conversations between attorney and client. All Court participants shall frequently wash their hands with soap and water as provided in the restrooms, especially after touching or handling any paper or object, and shall use hand sanitizer which is located throughout the courthouse and is mounted on the wall upon entry into the courtroom.

All persons are encouraged, though not required, to wear nose-and-mouth-covering masks or layered cloths during court proceedings and during interactions with other persons in and around the courthouse.

ALTERNATE HEARING METHODS

Any person who presents themselves to the Security Officer for registration for an inperson court appearance, after being sent back to their vehicle to wait for their case to be called, may thereafter be contacted by an attorney, a case worker, or a member of the District Attorney's Office concerning their ability to participate electronically in the hearing rather than in person. The person is then encouraged to use any available cell phone, tablet, computer, or other device allowing internet access, and even to go to a location other than the courthouse if asked to do so, for the purpose of participating electronically in any hearings in Court on their case. Typically, either wi-fi access or a good cellular connection is necessary for electronic participation in court hearings.

As noted above, it is preferred that persons appear electronically rather than in-person for all court proceedings. In-person hearings, although an option, should only be used as a last resort, after all other attempts at video conferencing have failed.

GENERAL PROVISIONS

All individuals are directed that if they have had a cough, a fever, or trouble breathing at any time in the past two weeks, or if they have been exposed to any person who has exhibited these symptoms in the past two weeks, then they SHALL NOT appear at the Justice Center on any of these court dates. Such persons are directed to notify the Clerk's Office by telephone (423-562-2624) before the scheduled court hearing, and their case will be rescheduled.

All individuals are directed that if they, or any person they've been around for the past 14 days, have undergone testing for any virus in the past 14 days, then they SHALL NOT appear at the Justice Center on any of these court dates. Such persons are directed to notify the Clerk's Office by telephone (423-562-2624) before the scheduled court hearing, and their case will be rescheduled.

All individuals are directed that if they or anyone they've been exposed to in the past 14 days have been told by a health care worker to quarantine or to isolate themselves for any reason in the last 14 days, then they SHALL NOT appear at the Justice Center on any of these court

dates. Such persons are directed to notify the Clerk's Office by telephone (423-562-2624) before the scheduled court hearing, and their case will be rescheduled.

Furthermore the Supreme Court Order allows proceedings by telephone, video, teleconferencing, email or other means which do not involve in-person contact. Therefore attorneys shall be allowed to have their clients, witnesses, parties or other individuals participate by said means. However, said attorney must make the arrangements and supply the means to accomplish this process.

7	The overall	goal of thi	s Order	is to cont	inue the	business	of the	Court	while	limiting	in-
person c	ontact as mu	ich as pos	sible, co	nsistent w	vith cons	titutional	provisi	ons.		_	

It is so ORDERED this day	of,	20	•
---------------------------	-----	----	---

Amanda H. Sammons, JUDGE
CAMPBELL COUNTY GENERAL SESSIONS
AND JUVENILE COURTS

TOWN OF CARYVILLE MUNICIPAL COURT

Re: COVID-19

In response to the Covid-19 Pandemic and the Order of the Supreme Court on March 25th, 2020 (and all amendments thereto) the Town of Caryville shall adopt the following to be incorporated into its normal court operating procedure:

- 1. The Town of Caryville will continue to accept payments for issued citations. Payments may for fine and costs can be sent by check or money order to Town of Caryville, 4839 Old Highway 63, Caryville, TN 37714. Please understand that paying the ticket is an admission of guilt.
- 2. If you want to pay the ticket but need additional time for payment you may call Laura Ridenour with the Town of Caryville at (423) 562-9478 or email at lauraridenourtoc@yahoo.com. You may also pay online at http://www.caryvillepay.com.
- 3. If you need additional time to pay, the Clerk will have the authority to reset your case for one (1) month and placed on docket for cost review.
- 4. During this period this Court has authorized its Clerk to permit on-line driving school should the Defendant request same. This authorization will allow the Town to balance its docket with the need to minimize attendance in court and/or the municipal building.

If you want to attend driving school you may do the following:

- a. Call Laura Ridenour at (423) 562-9478 or email to lauraridenourtoc@yahoo.com and request the driving school option. Upon election to attend the on line driving school, you will be provided a reset court date.
- b. After you have contacted the Clerk regarding your election to attend online driving school, you will receive a new court date and you must attend the online school prior to your reset court date. Further, you are to submit a certificate of completion from a certified driving school to the 4839 Old Highway 63, Caryville, TN 37714 via mail or electronic mail.
- c. It is your responsibility to schedule, pay for and attend a certified driving school. Also, it is your responsibility to submit the completion certificate to the Clerk.
- d. After completion of the on line driving school, you must forward (1) your certificate of completion and (2) check or money order for court cost to the City Clerk.

- e. If you have requested the driving school option but failed to pay your costs and/or provide proof of attendance, your costs may be forfeited as an admission of guilt and the matter will be removed from the docket.
- f. Pursuant to State and Federal law, persons who hold a Commercial Drivers License are not eligible to attend driving school.
- 5. If you want to exercise your right to a hearing and contest the validity of the citation, you may appear for a hearing by doing the following:
 - a. Call Laura Ridenour at (423) 562-9478 and request a hearing on your citation.
 - b. Your hearing will be conducted on the appearance date contained on your citation unless otherwise directed by the Clerk.
 - c. Until further Order of this Court, the courtroom access will be limited. On the date of your hearing, you will be instructed by the Clerk and/or court bailiff as to the specifics of your hearing. You will not be granted access to the courtroom until you are called for your hearing. At all times in the Courtroom you will be required to maintain a 6 foot distance from yourself and all others unless directed otherwise by Court personnel.
 - d. If you fail to appear for your scheduled hearing the Clerk will be directed to forward your failure to appear to the Tennessee Department of Safety, which may suspend your driving privileges.
- 6. If your Town of Caryville citation involves violation of a city code or ordinance rather than a traffic citation, please contact the City Clerk at (423) 562-9478 for instructions on how to proceed prior to the court date on your citation.
- 7. All matters previously set for the May 2020 docket are hereby reset for a later court date. The City Clerk shall notify parties of all pending cases for the May docket of any reset date.

Reid Troutman	
Municipal Court	Judge for Town of Caryville

Reid Troutman /s/

TOWN OF JACKSBORO MUNICIPAL COURT

585 Main Street P.O. Box 75 Jacksboro, TN 37757 Telephone: (423) 562-9312 Facsimile: (423) 566-8121

Dear Sir/Madam:

.

Due to the Covid-19 Pandemic, the normal operating procedures of the Jacksboro Municipal Court have been modified. If you have received a traffic citation, you have the following options:

- 1. You may mail your fine and costs by check or money order to Town of Jacksboro, P.O. Box 75, Jacksboro, TN 37757. Please understand that paying the ticket is an admission of guilt.
- 2. If you want to pay the ticket but need additional time to have adequate money to pay the ticket in full, you may call the Jacksboro City Clerk at 423-562-9312. If you need additional time to pay, the Clerk will have the authority to reset your case for one (1) month to be put on a "cost status" docket. Please be advised that the Clerk may only extend the case for one month, and if you choose this option the case will not be returned to the hearing docket. Also be advised that the Clerk may not accept partial payments, meaning that when you pay your citation you must pay it in full.
- 3. If you want to attend driving school to prevent getting points on your driving record you may do the following:
 - A. Call the Jacksboro City Clerk at 423-562-9312 and request the driving school option.
 - B. To be eligible you must not have attended driving school previously <u>for the Town of Jacksboro</u>. A list of prior attendees is maintained by the Clerk.
 - C. You must pay your fine and costs prior to your scheduled Court date, preferably by mail, and you must pay your fine and costs prior to attending driving school.
 - D. After you have called the Clerk and requested the driving school option, you will have sixty (60) days from your scheduled court date to submit a certificate of completion from a certified driving school to the Jacksboro City Clerk at P.O. Box 75, Jacksboro, TN 37757, preferably by mail.
 - E. On-line driving school courses are acceptable.
 - F. It is your responsibility to schedule, pay for and attend a certified driving school. Also, it is your responsibility to submit the completion certificate to the Clerk.

G. If you have requested the driving school option and paid your fine and costs, but have not submitted a driving school certificate to the Jacksboro City Clerk within sixty (60) days of your scheduled hearing date, your fine and costs will be forfeited as an admission of guilt and the matter will be removed from the docket.

- H. Pursuant to State and Federal law, persons who hold a Commercial Drivers License are not eligible to attend driving school.
- 4. If you want to exercise your right to a hearing and contest the validity of the citation, you may appear for a hearing by doing the following:
 - A. Call the Jacksboro City Clerk at 423-562-9312 and request a hearing on your citation.
 - B. Your hearing will be conducted on the appearance date contained on your citation unless otherwise directed by the Clerk.
 - C. The time of your hearing will be staggered on fifteen minute intervals in an effort to minimize the number of persons in the Courtroom. The Clerk will tell you the exact time of your hearing and you will need to enter the Courtroom at that time, along with any witnesses that you intend to call. At all times in the Courtroom you will be required to maintain a 6 foot distance from yourself and all others unless directed otherwise by Court personnel.
 - D. If you fail to appear for your scheduled hearing the Clerk will be directed to forward your failure to appear to the Tennessee Department of Safety, which may suspend your driving privileges.
- 5. If your Town of Jacksboro citation involves violation of a city code or ordinance rather than a traffic citation, please contact the Jacksboro City Clerk at (423) 562-9312 for instructions on how to proceed prior to the court date on your citation.

Sincerely,

Robert R. Asbury Municipal Court Judge

City of Jellico Court

There will be no sessions of this court until June 1, 2020.

LaFOLLETTE CITY COURT

215 South Tennessee Ave. LaFollette, TN 37766

Telephone: (423) 563-0720 Facsimile: (423) 562-4281

Court Clerk Hours:

Mon - Fri 8:00 a.m. - 4:30 p.m.

Court in session:

1st and 2nd Thursday of each month at 6:00 p.m.

RE: COURT POLICIES AND PROCEDURES DURING COVID-19

A list of violations with descriptions and costs may be found at www.lafollettetn.gov/departments/police-department/fines.

You may reach the City Clerk at the telephone number above, or by email at citycourt@lafollettepd.org.

Many people come to court to present proof of insurance or other types of compliance. Please tell the City Clerk, who has been authorized to accept your documentation, when you discuss your payment options described below. Be advised the system will not accept partial payments, and you must pay in full.

The normal operating procedures of the LaFollette City Court will be modified anytime it is operating under a state of emergency for the Judicial Branch declared by the Tennessee Supreme Court.

If you have received a traffic citation, you have the following payment options.

OPTION 1. You may pay your ticket by phone or on-line with a credit or debit card through www.lafollettecitationpayments.com or toll-free at (844) 293-3736. You may mail your fines and costs by cashiers check or money order with the citation number on your form of payment made payable to LaFollette City Court at 215 S. Tennessee Ave., LaFollette, TN 37766. If the municipal building is open, you may pay in person at the window on the right at the entrance.

If you voluntarily pay before your court date while in-person hearings are limited due to COVID-19, it is the policy of this court that you will <u>not</u> be penalized with points assessed against your driver's licenses.

OPTION 2. If you are not able to pay your ticket in full, you may ask the City Clerk PRIOR TO your court date to enroll you in the City of LaFollette's driving school. Your case will be removed from the hearing docket and you will not have to come to court.

LaFollette driving school is scheduled periodically for four (4) hours on a Monday night. You must pay the class fees before you attend. After you complete the class, your fines and court costs will be waived upon this Court's presumption the COVID-19 shutdown has caused you and your family a financial hardship. This Court is waiving normal eligibility requirements for attendees of LaFollette's driving school. The reduced class fee and eligibility waiver cannot be offered for online driving schools outside the authority of the LaFollette Police Department. You must enroll BEFORE your court date to be eligible for this accommodation.

Please note, pursuant to State and Federal law, persons who hold a Commercial Drivers License are not eligible to attend driving school, and this cannot be waived.

The City Clerk will be sending, by mail or email, written notices for driving school scheduled when it can be safely taught by post-certified Police Instructors. You need to advise the Clerk if your mailing address changes from the one that appears on your driver's licenses, so you will receive the driving school mailings. You are encouraged to provide an email address to citycourt@lafollettepd.org.

If you have been laid off or you are not otherwise working due to COVID-19, you may ask the City Clerk about community service with the various approved organizations in and around the City of LaFollette. However, during the shutdown, those services are limited and may not be available.

Due to delays caused by COVID-19 shutdowns, you will have more time to pay tickets under the two (2) options above than you would during normal court schedules. Be mindful that the terms in the above Options offered under these COVID-19 procedures are not given by this Court under normal conditions. You are encouraged to take advantage of these opportunities while the courts are closed.

OPTION 3. You always have the right to contest a ticket, and your case will be scheduled when in-person hearings reconvene. You will have the opportunity to present witnesses and written evidence. You may be invited to participate in a ZOOM hearing as described below.

If the Court is closed on the date listed on your citation, the City Clerk will mail you a NOTICE of your rescheduled hearing date set when in-person hearings reconvene.

As the COVID-19 shutdown is extended, the Court may conduct hearings online through the ZOOM App. You would be able to participate with an internet device that is set up to receive email, such as a smart phone, a tablet or a PC webcam. If you are interested, please provide the City Clerk with your email address and cell phone number. No one will be penalized if they do not have this

equipment. ZOOM is free for participants, and the Court will host the session.

ATTENDANCE IN COURT:

When in-person hearings reconvene, Court will be conducted to protect the health and safety of all participants. Many of us are high risk.

Anytime you must bring a child to LaFollette City Court, please stop at the window and tell a court officer so we can accommodate you at the beginning of the docket.

Courtroom seating will be spaced to maintain a 6 foot distance. Please maintain this distance for any persons who are not members of your household.

Please wear non-offensive facial covering of your choice such as a mask or bandana.

Please come to the podium as your name is called. The Bailiff will call the docket in a manner to allow you to maintain social distancing.

In the event we cannot safely accommodate all participants in the Courtroom, there will be a Court Officer at the courtroom entrance to provide instructions.

If you are familiar with the Zoom App and equipped with a smart device, please advise a Court Officer and provide your contact information. You may be given permission to leave so the Court can conduct your hearing online at the end of the docket.

If your citation involves violation of a city code or ordinance rather than a traffic citation, your case will be scheduled by mail when in-person hearings reconvene.

If you fail to appear for your scheduled hearing, the Clerk will forward your failure to appear to the Tennessee Department of Safety, which may suspend your driving privileges.

Kathy Parrott

LaFollette City Court Judge

IN THE GENERAL SESSIONS, CIVIL AND JUVENILE COURTS FOR CLAIBORNE COUNTY, TENNESSEE

ORDER OF COURT PROCEEDINGS BEGINNING MAY 1, 2020

Pursuant to Order of Supreme Court of Tennessee No. ADM2020-00428 IN RE: COVID-19 PANDEMIC entered on April 24, 2020 the proceedings in Claiborne County General Sessions Criminal, Civil and Juvenile Courts beginning May 1, 2020 shall be modified as follows:

Paragraph 2) of the Supreme Court Order states "Courts should continue to conduct as much business as possible by means other than in-person court proceedings."

Furthermore the Supreme Court Order requires submission of a written plan to the Chief Justice by the presiding judge of the judicial district that outlines the process to gradually begin conducting in-person court proceedings.

The proposed plan for Claiborne County General Sessions Criminal, Civil and Juvenile Courts is as follows:

Registration Prior to Court

The Clerk of the Court shall present a docket for each court date to the Security Officer at the entrance to the Justice Center and to the Judge's Office. Each party, witness or other interested parties shall present themselves at the Justice Center entrance and register their name and phone number with the officer stationed at the entrance door. The officer should also request from each person registering to indicate for which docketed case they are appearing. The officer will then notate the docket number for the stated case next to each name on the registration list and on the corresponding case on the docket. All registered parties shall be required to remain present outside of the building in their vehicles or in open spaces.

Periodically the registering officer shall provide updated registration lists and dockets to the Judge. Copies will then be provided to the Counsel Table.

Court Proceedings

The Justice Center courtroom has seven (7) rows of bench seating. The rows are divided in half by an aisle from the courtroom entrance to the bar. Designation of the rows shall be made by and from the viewpoint of the Judge.

Once court has opened the Judge will notify court officers to call two (2) cases designated by the Judge. The parties, witnesses or other interested parties will be

contacted using the information previously registered by designated court personnel and requested to the front entrance. Each individual will have their temperature checked and will be issued a face mask as well. If the temperature does not exceed 100.4° Fahrenheit they shall be admitted to the building and on into the courtroom. The wearing of the face mask will be required. If the temperature of any required participant is in excess 100.4° Fahrenheit they will not be allowed entrance and will not be issued a face mask. The corresponding case will be continued to a future date as necessary.

Once the cleared participants are allowed entry into the courtroom, the plaintiffs/petitioners and their parties will be seated on the left side of the center aisle and the defendants/respondents will be seated on the right side of the center aisle. The number of parties, witnesses, etc. allowed into the courtroom shall not exceed ten (10) persons at any time.

Upon resolution of the first case the parties, witnesses, etc. involved in that case will be required to exit the courtroom and building in an orderly but immediate process. Thereafter the next case for which the second group is already present in the courtroom will be addressed.

The Judge shall at this point notify court personnel for the next case group to be called to begin the entry process outlined above as the current case hearing is being conducted. This will begin the cycle of single case groups being processed into the courtroom to fill the vacancy of each previously exited case group. This process shall continue until all the scheduled cases are concluded.

Court Conduct

On General Sessions Criminal court dates while conducting cases as outlined above it will be necessary for attorneys to have designated spaces to confer with their clients. There are for (4) available conference areas for this purpose. Each area contains a table that is six (6) feet long and the attorney and client will be required to be seated at opposite ends. Placed on each table will be disinfectant spray, sanitizing spray, paper towels, gloves and hand sanitizer. The attorney and parties shall be required to sanitize or disinfect the table, chairs, door knobs or any items or areas touched after each use. Furthermore they shall frequently use the hand sanitizer.

All attorneys, officers, court personnel and the Judge shall wear masks during court proceedings.

Alternate Hearing Methods

Any person that presents themselves to the Security Office for registration may request that their hearing be conducted by means other than in-person. The court will make every reasonable effort utilizing available technology to teleconference, email exchange, video conference, etc. The registering officer shall make it know to each person upon registration that such an option is available. If said person requests this option they will be instructed to remain in their vehicle or outside the building until the case is resolved by whatever means implemented.

Furthermore if persons make such requests to their attorneys, the Clerk of the Court or the Judge their request will be accommodated if possible.

In addition to the above procedures and guidelines the Justice Center will follow the Universal Guidelines set forth in Gov. Bill Lee's Tennessee Pledge, Reopening Tennessee Responsibly.

Furthermore the Court will follow the guidelines set forth by Gov. Bill Lee relating to the increasing number of persons that may gather in phases. Therefore Phase No. 1 will limit the number of persons to ten (10) and has been implemented in the above court procedures. Upon introduction of each successive phase the number of persons allowed in the courtroom will increase as designated.

All individuals are directed that if they exhibit any symptoms of COVID-19 a/k/a CORONA VIRUS or are knowingly exposed to someone with the COVID-19 a/k/a CORONA VIRUS they SHALL NOT appear at the Justice Center on any of these court dates. Such persons are directed to notify the Clerk's Office by telephone (423-626-3334) before the scheduled court hearing and their case will be rescheduled.

Furthermore the Supreme Court Order allows proceedings by telephone, video, teleconferencing, email or other means that do not involve in person contact. Therefore attorneys shall be allowed to have their clients, witnesses, parties or other individuals participate by said means. However said attorney must make the arrangements and supply the means to accomplish this process.

The overall goal of this order is to continue the business of the court while limiting in-person contact as much as possible.

This continues to be an unprecedented situation we are experiencing and extraordinary methods and responses must be implemented. This order remains subject to modification as these matters proceed and any suggestions for better procedures will be welcomed.

It is so ORDERED.

ENTER ED this the 20 day of Upvl

Robert M. Estep, General Sessions, Civil and Juvenile Court Judge

IN THE SUPREME COURT OF TENNESSEE AT NASHVILLE

FILED
04/24/2020
Clerk of the
Appellate Courts

IN RE:	COV	ID-19	PA	ND	EMIC
		1117-17	1.7	ユヽレ	

(c	C	0	P	Y
----	---	---	---	---

No. ADM2020-00428

ORDER MODIFYING SUSPENSION OF IN-PERSON COURT PROCEEDINGS AND FURTHER EXTENSION OF DEADLINES

On March 13, 2020, in response to the COVID-19 pandemic, the Chief Justice of the Tennessee Supreme Court declared a state of emergency for the Judicial Branch of Tennessee government and activated a Continuity of Operations Plan for the courts of Tennessee. See Tenn. Const. Art. VI, § 1; Tenn. Code Ann. §§ 16-3-501 to 16-3-504 (2009); Moore-Pennoyer v. State, 515 S.W.3d 271, 276-77 (Tenn. 2017); Tenn. Sup. Ct. R. 49. This state of emergency constitutes a "disaster" for purposes of Tenn. Sup. Ct. R. 49 and Tenn. Code Ann. § 28-1-116. On March 25, 2020, the Tennessee Supreme Court continued the suspension of in-person court proceedings and the extension of deadlines. Since that time, the State of Tennessee and its citizens have made progress in mitigating the risks associated with COVID-19 and preparing for a re-opening of various aspects of daily life. This includes a modification of the suspension of in-person court proceedings, with appropriate safeguards.

Under the constitutional, statutory, and inherent authority of the Tennessee Supreme Court, the prior suspension of in-person proceedings, except for jury trials, in all state and local courts in Tennessee, including but not limited to municipal, juvenile, general sessions, trial, and appellate courts, shall be modified as set forth in this order. Unless otherwise noted herein, the provisions of this order shall remain in place through Sunday, May 31, 2020.

- 1) The suspension of jury trials shall remain in effect through Friday, July 3, 2020. Any exceptions must be based on extraordinary circumstances and approved by the Chief Justice.
- 2) Courts should continue to conduct as much business as possible by means other than in-person court proceedings. Courts are encouraged to continue and even increase the use of telephone, teleconferencing, email, video conferencing or other means that do not involve in-person contact. All of these methods should be the preferred option over in-person court proceedings.

3) All courts within a judicial district shall continue to operate under the guidelines and restrictions set forth in this Court's March 25, 2020 order until the Chief Justice has approved a written plan for the judicial district within which the court is located.

The presiding judge or the designee of the presiding judge of each judicial district. in coordination with the designated judge or other designee of the general sessions, juvenile, and municipal courts within each judicial district, shall develop a comprehensive written plan to gradually begin conducting in-person court proceedings (other than jury trials) in some non-emergency matters. Each plan should contain guidelines and restrictions designed to minimize to the greatest extent possible the risk of the spread of COVID-19 from in-person court proceedings. The written plans may include different guidelines and restrictions for different courts or counties within a judicial district. The written plans should include guidelines and restrictions addressing matters including but not limited to admission into the courthouse, limitation of the number of persons in the courtroom, staggering of hearing times, management of social distancing in the courthouse and in the courtroom, and handling of witnesses (e.g., having witnesses remain in their vehicles or placing them in separate rooms). The use of personal protection such as face masks, as well as appropriate use of disinfectants, is encouraged in courthouses to protect court personnel and the public. Screening measures such as touchless thermometers and health questions relevant to COVID-19 may be used for entry into courthouses. However, factors such as availability and cost of such measures should be taken into consideration before inclusion as mandatory requirements in a written plan. Alternatively, a written plan may consist of an election to continue to operate under the guidelines and restrictions set forth in this Court's March 25, 2020 order. The presiding judge or the designee of the presiding judge of each judicial district shall submit its written plan to the Administrative Office of the Courts for approval by the Chief Justice.

- 4) Judges are charged with the responsibility of ensuring that core constitutional functions and rights are protected. Additionally, court clerks are charged with ensuring that court functions continue. See Tenn. Code Ann. §§ 18-1-101 (2009); 18-1-105 (Supp. 2019). Court clerks are to work cooperatively and at the direction of the presiding judge of each judicial district to fulfill the clerks' obligation to facilitate continuing court function. Nevertheless, all judges and court clerks should continue to minimize in-person contact by utilizing available technologies, including alternative means of filing, teleconferencing, email, and video conferencing.
- 5) Any Tennessee state or local rule, criminal or civil, that impedes a judge's or court clerk's ability to utilize available technologies to limit in-person contact is suspended through Sunday, May 31, 2020. See, e.g., Tenn. R. Civ. P. 43.01. With respect to plea agreements for non-incarcerated individuals, this suspension expressly applies to those provisions of Tenn. R. Crim. P. 11 which otherwise would require the proceeding to be in

person in open court. See, e.g., Tenn. R. Crim. P. 11(b)(1) and (2), 11(c)(2)(A). For purposes of implementing procedural matters during this time, the provisions of Rule 18(c) of the Rules of the Tennessee Supreme Court are suspended to allow judges to issue general orders.

- 6) Judges' offices and court clerks' offices may limit in-person contact with the public during the period of suspension, but must remain open for business. If it becomes necessary to restrict physical access to judges' or court clerks' offices during the period of suspension, these offices shall remain accessible by telephone, email and fax to the extent possible during regular business hours. If available, drop boxes should be used for conventionally filed documents.
- 7) Deadlines set forth in court rules, statutes, ordinances, administrative rules, or otherwise that are set to expire during the period from Friday, March 13, 2020, through Sunday May 31, 2020, are hereby extended through Friday, June 5, 2020. This extension does not apply to deadlines set forth in the Tennessee Rules of Appellate Procedure or the Rules of the Tennessee Supreme Court, except as otherwise provided by the orders of this Court entered March 27, 2020 (Order Suspending Board of Professional Responsibility's Proceedings and Extending Deadlines) (Order Regarding Continuing Legal Education), March 31, 2020 (Order Clarifying the Extension of Deadlines), and April 2, 2020 (Order Temporarily Modifying Certain Provisions of Tennessee Supreme Court Rule 7). This extension does not apply to deadlines set forth in pre-trial scheduling orders, but such deadlines remain subject to extension by the trial courts in their discretion. Statutes of limitations and statutes of repose that would otherwise expire during the period from Friday, March 13, 2020, through Sunday May 31, 2020, are hereby extended through Friday, June 5, 2020. See Tenn. Code Ann. § 28-1-116 (2017). Deadlines, statutes of limitations, and statutes of repose that are not set to expire during the period from Friday, March 13, 2020, through Sunday, May 31, 2020, are not extended or tolled by this order.
- 8) Attorneys and judges are encouraged to utilize the "Online Notary Public Act," Tenn. Code Ann. § 8-16-301, et seq., and the regulations promulgated by the Secretary of State at Sec. of State, Tenn. R. and Reg. 1360-07-03-.01. Additionally, Executive Order No. 26 issued by Governor Lee on April 9, 2020, addresses notary issues. With regard to court filings, declarations under penalty of perjury may be used as an alternative to a notary. The use of electronic signatures as provided under Rule 5B of the Tennessee Rules of Civil Procedure and Rules 46 and 46A of the Rules of the Tennessee Supreme Court is extended to any pleadings or documents to be filed or served by conventional means during the time that the state of emergency for the Judicial Branch remains in place.
- 9) Given the increasing economic issues caused by this pandemic, no judge, clerk, or other court official shall take any action to effectuate an eviction, ejectment, or other

displacement from a residence during the effective dates of this order based upon the failure to make a rent, loan, or other similar payment absent extraordinary circumstances as determined by a judge in a court of competent jurisdiction. Nothing in this order affects the obligations, terms, or conditions for payment under existing contracts. Judges also are encouraged to work with court clerks and local law enforcement to develop policies severely limiting or eliminating any new garnishments during this time.

10) Orders of protection and temporary injunctions that would otherwise expire during the period from Friday, March 13, 2020, through Sunday, May 31, 2020, are hereby extended through Friday, June 5, 2020.

This order applies statewide to all courts and court clerks' offices except administrative courts within the Executive Branch and federal courts and federal court clerks' offices located in Tennessee.

Under the terms of this order, the courts of Tennessee remain open, consistent with the Judicial Branch's obligation to mitigate the risks associated with COVID-19. Judges should work with local law enforcement and other county officials to ensure that, to the extent possible, courthouses remain accessible to carry out essential constitutional functions and time-sensitive proceedings.

This order is intended to be interpreted broadly for protection of the public from risks associated with COVID-19.

It is so ORDERED.

FOR THE COURT:

Jeffrey S. Bivins, Chief Justice

nenelia a. Clark

Cornelia A. Clark, Justice

Sharon S. Lee

Sharon G. Lee, Justice

Holly Kirby, Justice

Goza A Jazz

Roger A. Page, Justice



Reopening Tennessee Responsibly

The "Tennessee Pledge" is a plan to help Tennesseans return to work in a safe environment, restore their livelihoods and reboot our state's economy.



Gov. Bill Lee's Economic Recovery Group (ERG)

Name Department/Agency/Company

Mark Ezell Director

Sammie Arnold Chief of Staff

William Lamberth Tennessee House of Representatives

Jack Johnson Tennessee Senate

Brandon Gibson Senior Advisor to Governor Lee

Bob Rolfe Department of Economic and Community Development

Greg Gonzales Department of Financial Institutions

David Gerregano Department of Revenue
Dr. Charles Hatcher Department of Agriculture

Dr. Jeff McCord Department of Labor and Workforce

Hodgen Mainda Department of Commerce and Insurance

Tony Niknejad Policy Director to Governor Lee
Brig. Gen. Scott Brower COVID-19 Unified Command

Dr. Morgan McDonald Department of Health

Dr. George Nelson Vanderbilt University Medical Center
Butch Eley Department of Finance & Administration
Jim Brown National Federation of Independent Business

Bradley Jackson TN Chamber of Commerce

Beverly Robertson Memphis Chamber of Commerce

Rob Ikard TN Grocers & Convenience Store Association

Rob Mortensen HospitalityTN

Colin Barrett TN Bankers Association
Fred Robinson TN Credit Union League
Dave Huneryager TN Trucking Association
Will Cromer TN Hospital Association

Mayor Kevin Davis President, Tennessee County Services Association

Mayor Jill Holland President, Tennessee Municipal League

Jeff Aiken TN Farm Bureau

Tari Hughes Center for Nonprofit Management

Roland Myers Tennessee Retail Association

Clay Crownover Associated Builders & Contractors of Tennessee



Tennessee Pledge

The "Tennessee Pledge" – is a plan to help Tennesseans return to work in a safe environment, restore their livelihoods and reboot our state's economy.

COVID-19 is an unprecedented and rapidly evolving threat facing Tennessee and the world. The health and safety of Tennesseans remains our number one priority. Much of our state's current success in this fight is because Tennesseans naturally choose to put each other first and voluntarily adopt safe, new habits. It's that volunteer spirit that's been fighting this pandemic and it's the same volunteer spirit that will rebuild our economy.

This plan was developed by Governor Lee, the Unified Command Group (UCG) and Tennessee's Economic Recovery Group (ERG) with input from health experts, state and local partners and business and industry leaders. It includes specific recommendations which enable most businesses to re-open responsibly without the burden of heavy mandates. This will be a gradual process, with room to adjust as we evaluate changing data.

The Tennessee Pledge asks businesses to provide safe working conditions that protect their employees' health and also protects consumers while securing their livelihoods. This plan also asks employees to commit to protecting themselves, their co-workers and the customers they serve. Finally, we encourage every Tennessee resident to be on the same team with our businesses: act responsibly by following recommended guidelines for social distancing, hygiene and wearing protective equipment when appropriate.

Only by working together as a community of volunteers can we successfully reboot our economy, a vital component of our lives, security and liberty, and successfully move past this public health crisis.



Our Health

Tennessee's first case of COVID-19 was reported on March 4, 2020. Over the subsequent weeks, case numbers increased rapidly. On April 2 Governor Lee signed his Safer at Home order to implement statewide restrictions on non-essential business and travel in order to "flatten the curve" and quickly slow the spread of disease. This order gave Tennessee and its healthcare system enough time to increase testing, plan for additional healthcare facility capacity, and secure enough personal protective equipment (PPE) to protect our healthcare workers.

In the weeks since the Safer at Home order, Tennessee has made impressive progress on slowing the spread of disease and improving Tennessee's readiness.

- Disease monitoring: The curve of illness is flattening. Syndromic data monitoring
 of influenza-like illness has seen a steady decline since mid-March and syndromic
 data monitoring of COVID-19-like illness has seen a steady decline since the end of
 March. The daily growth rate of new cases reported has been stable for more than
 14 days.
- Increase in testing: Tennessee has dramatically increased testing capacity, with
 rapid deployment of large volume and rapid testing when cases are identified in
 high-risk populations. Testing is available throughout the state, and residents have
 access to testing via health care providers, local health departments, and drive thru
 stations in every part of the state. Additional for expanded symptomatology has
 also been implemented to better ascertain the true volume of disease. There has
 been a downward trajectory of positive tests as a percentage of total tests since
 April 1.
- Increase in health care capacity: Careful monitoring of hospital bed usage shows capacity to treat COVID-19 and non-COVID-19 patients. The Unified Command Group has been working with hospitals, providers, and regional planning groups to increase the capacity of current facilities to "surge" if and when it is needed and to plan for additional clinical alternative care sites if needed.
- Increase in PPE available: LaunchTN, Tennessee's own innovation body, has been
 working closely with businesses across Tennessee and beyond to identify possible
 sources of masks, gloves, and other forms of PPE. The UCG has streamlined
 requests for PPE through regional emergency management coordinators and TEMA.
 To date, millions of dollars have been dedicated to the purchase of PPE to
 supplement routine supply channels for health care workers and first responders.



Our Economy

As the direct threat to Tennesseans' health has been mitigated, the threat to their livelihoods has increased. We know that economic health promotes physical and mental well-being. A substantial body of research from the U.S. and abroad consistently demonstrates a strong association between unemployment and poorer health outcomes.¹ Tennesseans have experienced devastating job losses across all 95 counties and diverse industry sectors.

413K
TN Unemployment
Claims

As a result of COVID-19 mitigation Tennesseans filed 412,895 unemployment claims with the Department of Labor and Workforce development between March 1 and April 18, 2020.²

15%
TN Workers Filed Unemployment

While these challenges started first for many of the Tennesseans who work in entertainment, recreation, and accommodation, they have now spread to impact almost every industry and every county across Tennessee.³

\$870M

Net Sales Lost by TN Retailers in March Some industries were impacted more dramatically than others including: a \$408 million decline in restaurant sales, a \$177 million decline in hotel and accommodation sales, a \$218 million decline in motor vehicle related sales, and a \$64 million decline in entertainment and recreation sales year over year. April losses will be significantly greater.⁴

55% Fewer New Business Applications New business applications are down 53% in April 2020. Additionally, the number of licensed professionals and businesses declined by 13% compared to the same time last year.⁵

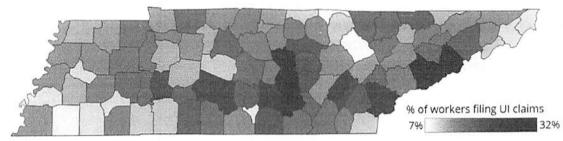
\$5B
TN GDP Lost in 2020

Tennessee Gross Domestic Product is projected to decline \$5 billion during 2020 as a result of closures and joblessness related to the pandemic, assuming businesses begin to reopen on May 1, 2020.⁶



Share of Jobs Impacted by Tennessee County

Unemployment claims as a share (%) of total county employment

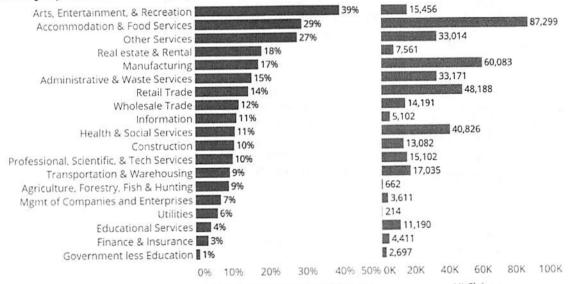


© 2020 Mapbox @ OpenStreetMap

Source: Tennessee Department of Labor & Workforce Development, Initial Unemployment Insurance Claims (3/1/20 - 4/18/20) and Industry Employment (February 2020). Data reported by claim date.

Share of Tennessee Jobs Impacted by Sector

Unemployment Insurance (UI) claims as a share (%) of total sector employment



UI Claims as Share of Employment

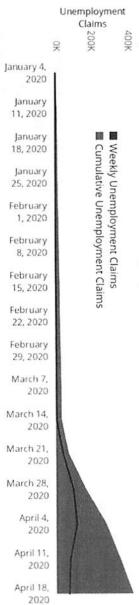
UI Claims

Source: Tennessee Department of Labor & Workforce Development, Initial Unemployment Insurance Claims (3/1/20 - 4/18/20) and Industry Employment (March 2020). Data reported by week ending.



Unemployment Claims over Time

Weekly total and cumulative total unemployment claims



Source: United States Department of Labor, Weekly Unemployment Insurance Claims (1/4/20-4/18/20). Data reported by week ending

Sources

- Employment Status and Physical Health. Rehabilitation Research, Policy, and Education, 29(1), 2-26. Determinant of Health: A Systematic Review of Longitudinal Studies Exploring the Relationship Between ¹Hergenrather, K. C., Zeglin, R. J., Mcguire-Kuletz, M., & Rhodes, S. D. (2015). Employment as a Social
- ²Tennessee Department of Labor and Workforce Development.
- ³Tennessee Department of Labor and Workforce Development.
- should consider those sectors not represented. services sector, and other sectors that are not subject to the tax. Any inferences from these estimates ⁴Tennessee Department of Revenue. Sales and Use tax estimates do not reflect activities in the personal
- 1 and April 20 for both 2019 and 2020 ⁵Tennessee Department of Commerce & Insurance. Preliminary data compares applications between April
- ⁶Economic impact analysis prepared by the Nashville Area Chamber of Commerce Research Center using REMI dynamic modeling software. Fixed (2012) \$



Universal Guidelines

For All Businesses

The State is recommending safeguarding protocols for all businesses in Tennessee, including those that are re-opening and those essential businesses that have remained open during the Safer at Home order. These safeguarding protocols are based on the recommendations of the CDC and OSHA. To support the Pledge for Tennessee, all employers and employees should take steps to reopen safely, help other industries be able to open more quickly, and help Tennessee remain healthy and open for business.

Employers

- Screen all employees reporting to work for COVID-19 symptoms with the following questions:
 - o Have you been in close contact with a confirmed case of COVID-19?
 - o Are you experiencing a cough, shortness of breath, or sore throat?
 - o Have you had a fever in the last 48 hours?
 - o Have you had new loss of taste or smell?
 - o Have you had vomiting or diarrhea in the last 24 hours?
- Temperature screening employees:
 - o Best practice: employers to take temperatures on site with a no-touch thermometer each day upon arrival at work.
 - o Minimum: Temperatures can be taken before arriving. Normal temperature should not exceed 100.4 degrees Fahrenheit.
- Direct any employee who exhibits COVID-19 symptoms (i.e., answers yes to any
 of the screening questions or who is running a fever) to leave the premises
 immediately and seek medical care and/or COVID-19 testing, per CDC guidelines.
 Employers should maintain the confidentiality of employee health information.
- Implement workplace cleaning and disinfection practices, according to <u>CDC</u> guidelines, with regular sanitization of high-touch surfaces at least every two hours
- Mitigate exposure in the workplace by implementing social distancing guidelines and modify scheduling
- Allow employees to work from home as much as possible
- Plan for potential COVID-19 cases, and work with local health department officials when needed (e.g., monitor and trace COVID-19 cases, deep clean facilities)
- Covered employers and employees should be aware of the provisions of the federal Families First Coronavirus Response Act, which allows for paid sick leave



- or expanded family and medical leave for specified reasons, such as for selfquarantining or seeking a medical diagnosis for COVID-19 symptoms
- Update the Employee Illness Policy to include the symptoms of "COVID-19" or create a COVID-19 specific policy. All staff should sign the policy, and the policy should be posted for confirmation
- Limit self-service options (customer samples, communal packaging, food/beverages, etc.)
- Post extensive signage on health policies, including the following documents in the workplace to help educate building occupants on COVID-19 best practices:
 - o CDC guidance to stop the spread of germs
 - o CDC guidance on COVID-19 symptoms

Employees

- Stay home when feeling ill, when exposed to COVID-19 (e.g., positive household member case), or if diagnosed with a confirmed case of COVID-19. Employees who are particularly vulnerable to COVID-19 according to the CDC (e.g., due to age or underlying conditions) are encouraged to stay home
- Increase hygiene practices—wash hands more frequently, avoid touching face, practice good respiratory etiquette
- Wear a cloth face covering (not an N-95 or medical mask, which should be reserved for healthcare workers) while at work and in public to help protect against the spread of the virus
- **Practice recommended social distancing** to the greatest extent possible "Further is safer"
- **Abide by guidelines established by employer**, which may include the use of gloves, social distancing practices in the workplace, and increased sanitation

Businesses should follow guidance issued by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, as well as any applicable federal or regulatory requirements. In addition to these general guidelines for all Tennessee employers and employees, each employer and employee should refer to their industry-specific guidance, as set forth on the following pages. These industry-specific safeguarding protocols have been created with the input of private sector working groups in partnership with the Economic Recovery Group. Protocols are subject to change and may be released on a rolling basis. Companies doing business in Tennessee should follow Tennessee guidance and best practices outlined in this document.



Restaurant Industry

Safeguarding Guidance

In addition to strict adherence to CDC guidelines, the State recommends restaurants put into place an assortment of measures to protect consumers and employees, including:

Employee Protection

- Follow sanitation frequency guidance contained in this document at all times
- Have dedicated face coverings and dedicated gloves (i.e., only used by one person)
 worn by all employees, at all times
 - Should not be N-95 or medical variety these should be saved for use by healthcare workers
- Require all employees to report any symptoms of illness to supervisor and require notification of COVID-19 positive case in employee's household
- Provide ServSafe COVID-19 training for all food handlers as soon as possible

Consumer Protection

- Limit the number of customers in the restaurant to 50% of seating capacity
- Tables should be spaced at least 6 feet apart
- Limit tables to no more than 6 guests per table
- Mark any indoor or outdoor waiting area so that social distancing standards are met (options can include a text system to alert guests of available seating, an intercom system, or only one member of a party being allowed to wait in the waiting area)
- Bar areas should remain closed
- · Live music should not be permitted
- Screen customers for illness upon their entry into the restaurant:
 - Best practice: Temperature checks for every customer. Customers with temperatures above 100.4 degrees Fahrenheit should not be permitted on premise
 - o Minimum: Question customers regarding COVID-19 symptoms
 - Have you been in close contact with a confirmed case of COVID-19?
 - Are you experiencing a cough, shortness of breath, or sore throat?
 - Have you had a fever in the last 48 hours?



Business Process Adaptations

- Place hand sanitizer stations in restaurant lobby and bathrooms, as well as at cashier stations
- Sanitize all front-of-house contact surfaces including door handles, screens, phones, pens, keyboards and other areas of hand contact every two hours, at a minimum
- Use menus that are disposable or sanitized between each use
- Use rolled silverware/napkins stored in sealed bins (gloves should be used by staff while rolling silverware in designated sanitary areas)
- Sanitize all tabletop items, including condiments, after each table turns (or use disposables)
- Sanitize chairs, especially where contact occurs, after each table turns
- Do not offer self-serve buffets, condiments on a counter for use by multiple tables, or beverage station re-use



Retail Industry

Safeguarding Guidance

In addition to strict adherence to CDC guidelines, the State recommends retail industries put into place an assortment of measures to protect consumers and employees, including:

Employee Protection

- Staff should wear face coverings (not N-95 or medical masks, which should be reserved for healthcare workers) and other personal protection items as recommended by the CDC
- Provide training on personal protective equipment based on CDC guidelines
- Provide a sanitizing station such as a wash basin with soap and/or bottle of hand sanitizer
- Stagger shifts, breaks, and meals, in compliance with wage and hour laws and regulations, to maintain social distancing
- Provide regular updates and training for employees about personal COVID-19 mitigation and store safeguards based on CDC guidelines
- Require all employees to report any illness to supervisor and require notification of COVID-19 positive case in employee's household
- Prohibit congregating in break rooms or common areas and limit capacity of such areas to allow for safe social distancing minimum of 6 feet whenever possible

Consumer Protection

- Limit the number of customers inside a store at a given time, excluding employees and representatives of third-party delivery companies, to 50 percent or less of store occupancy based on Tennessee's Building and Fire Code
- Customers should wear face coverings inside the store
- Consider dedicated shopping hours or appointment times for the elderly, medically vulnerable, and health care workers
- Establish one-way aisles and traffic patterns for social distancing
- Increase curbside, pickup, and delivery service options to minimize contact and maintain social distancing
- Assign dedicated staff to prompt customers regarding the importance of social distancing



 Add social distancing "reminder" signs, personal stickers, floor decals, and audio announcements

Business Process Adaptations

- Establish enhanced cleaning protocols that follow CDC guidelines including sanitizing shared resources (such as carts) after each use, and sanitizing all high traffic / high touch areas (such as counters check-out lanes, keypads, break rooms, dressing rooms, rest rooms) every two hours and when visibly dirty
- Use a clearly designated entrance and a separate clearly designated exit to maintain social distancing
- Use plastic shields or barriers between customers and clerks at service counters, and clean them frequently (every 2 hours and when visibly dirty)
- Adjust store hours to allow time for enhanced cleaning
- Prohibit the use of reusable bags (reusable bags may carry COVID-19)
- Suspend the sampling of food and personal hygiene products
- Task management-level employees within a store to monitor compliance

IN THE MUNICIPAL COURT FOR CUMBERLAND GAP, TENNESSEE

Order Modifying In-Person Court Proceedings

Pursuant to Order of Supreme Court of Tennessee No. ADM2020-00428, the proceedings in Municipal Court shall be modified as follows:

- 1. To ensure adequate spacing is available within the courtroom, no more than ten cases shall be docketed per scheduled court date,
- 2. Signs will be posted encouraging social distancing, and court officers will oversee the seating distribution and distancing within the court room,
- 3. Any party or witness who prefers to remain outside of the courtroom may register a phone number with the court officer and may remain outside of the building or in their vehicle until the case is called,
- 4. Continuances shall be liberally granted.

It is so ORDERED.

Entered this the 1st day of May, 2020.

Matthew McClung

Municipal Court Judge

Cumberland Gap, Tennessee

My plan for both cities will be almost identical other than the number of defendants in the court room at one time. This is due to the court room at New Tazewell being considerably smaller in size.

- 1) The number of defendants granted entry to the court room in Tazewell will not exceed 6 at any time while the docket is being heard. An officer will monitor this number and as defendants exit, other defendants from the parking area will be permitted entry not to exceed 6. In New Tazewell, the number of defendants granted entry will not exceed 4. Again, as defendants exit in New Tazewell, other defendants will be permitted entry not to exceed 4.
- 2) Before entering the court room, an officer wearing a mask and gloves will take the temperature of each defendant. Any person recording a temp of 99.9 or above will be denied entry. These persons will be advised to contact the court clerk for a future court date.
- 3) All persons entering the court room will be instructed to maintain a safe distance from other persons, a minimum of 6' will be required. In addition, these persons will be required to wear a mask, if they do not have a mask then one will be provided by the court.
- 4) When the defendant's case is called, he/she will be seated in a designated area located 6' or more from any court staff.
- 5) The court clerk who is charged with receiving payments will be wearing a mask & gloves.
- 6) Both cities have custodial staffs that will sanitize each court room a minimum of 24 hours prior to the docket being heard. Once the court room has been sanitized in anticipation of the docket, the public along with city employees will be denied access until after court proceedings.

Respectfully, David Bunch Municipal Judge P.O. Box 906 Jamestown, TN 38556 Phone (931) 879-6724 Fax (931) 879-6725

May 5, 2020

The Honorable Judge Shane Sexton Presiding Judge 8th Judicial District

Dear Judge Sexton,

After our meeting last week and subsequent meeting with the Fentress County Bar we have formulated a plan for all Fentress County General Sessions and Juvenile Courts.

The Fentress County General and Juvenile Courts will continue to follow the initial Tennessee Supreme Court Order suspending in-person proceedings through May 31, 2020.

In any case requiring in person hearings in the Fentress County General Sessions and Juvenile Courts the court will adhere to the following procedures.

- (1) The court will continue to coordinate calendars and dockets to minimize the number of people present at the justice center at any given time. Cases will be staggered to further reduce these numbers.
- (2) Upon arrival at the Fentress County Justice Center at the pre-determined time for the hearing, all attorneys, litigants and witnesses will check in with the court security personnel at the single-entry access point of the Fentress County Justice Center while continuing to comply with appropriate social distancing.
- (3) After check in with security personal, the attorneys, litigants and witnesses shall return to their vehicles until the case in which they are involved is called by the court at which time, court security personnel will alert the participants.
- (4) Upon a case being called by the court, the Attorneys and litigants will be allowed to enter the Justice Center and courtroom. Witnesses who are not parties will remain in their vehicles until called to testify at which time court security personal will alert them and allow them to enter the building and courtroom. All participants will be encouraged to use appropriate personal protection equipment and a disposal mask will be provided to those who do not have one.
- (5) The court will limit the number of people in the courtroom to 20 people including court personnel at any given time. This will allow for significantly more than the

recommended social distancing of 6 feet. Only those people directly involved in a given case will be allowed in the courtroom. Security personnel and court personnel will ensure that anyone present observes appropriate social distancing throughout the proceeding.

- (6) The court will continue to encourage settlement discussions prior to the set court date where appropriate and encourage the use of means other than in-person hearing if at all possible.
- (7) Courtrooms will continue to be sanitized at least daily or more often if necessary, depending on use.
- (8) Hand sanitizer will be readily available to all involved at all time while present in the Justice Center.

In addition to the plan set out herein, I have attached a letter of support from our County Executive regarding the County's assistance in protecting our citizens who are directly involved with the court system.

I am happy to answer any questions or address any other concerns if needed.

Thank You for your assistance and guidance in this trying time.

Most Sincerely,

ichael Todd Burnett

IN THE MUNICIPAL COURT FOR JAMESTOWN, TENNESSEE TO THE HONORABLE JUDGE E. SHAYNE SEXTON, PRESIDING JUDGE 8TH JUDICIAL DISTRICT

PROPOSAL FOR REOPENING JAMESTOWN MUNICIPAL COURT

Pursuant to Tennessee Supreme Court (TSC) Order no. ADM 2020-00428, as amended, in order to preserve the core constitutional rights of parties charged with jurisdictional offenses within the Jamestown City Limits and to minimize the risk of the spread of COVID-19 during in-court proceedings, the following Facts and Proposal are presented, but not necessarily in order of importance or priority.

FACTS

The Jamestown Municipal Court is in session at 2:00 pm the final Friday of each calendar month, excepting holidays, in the Jamestown City Council Chambers, until the docket is exhausted.

The Jamestown Municipal Court was not in session for the months of March and April, will not be in session for the month of May, and possibly for additional months, due to the restrictions found in T.S.C no. ADM 2020-00428 (as amended). Jamestown Municipal Court will reopen for the business for which it was created

when permitted to do so by the Tennessee Supreme Court as promulgated by the Presiding Judge of the 8th Judicial District

The docket for March, 2020 contained 16 citations and 30 total charges. The April docket contained 2 citations and 3 total charges. The docket for May, 2020 is not yet completed but is reasonably expected to increase due to the increase in road traffic resulting from the re-opening of most public and private activities.

The Jamestown Municipal Court is in session in the Chambers of the Jamestown City Council, a room not designed in any fashion for Municipal Court proceedings. There is no true courtroom security. One door of the City Council Chambers opens directly to the outside. The available seating space is inadequate even for non-suspended in-court proceedings. Seating is by individual chairs causing an occupant to be less than three (3) feet / 0.944 meters of their neighbor to their side and a slight increase in distance between the rows of chairs. Restroom facilities are difficult for occupants of the Jamestown Municipal Courtroom. There is limited handicap accessibility due to the unavoidable crowding. Conducting hearings via video conferencing is not feasible.

Given, however, the failings of the Jamestown City Council Chambers (the Chambers) for the needs of the Jamestown Municipal Court during the COVID-10 emergency, it is possible, with some effort and expense, to adapt sessions of the

Court to provide adequate and sufficient protection for those persons appearing before the Court, court personnel and security personnel.

The Jamestown Municipal Court, court personnel and security personnel have adapted to the present conditions of the Jamestown City Council Chambers and have evolved to the conditions present therein. Evolution is a continuing process.

No adaptation is, however, available or possible for the number of persons that would be present on the three dockets previously described on the same day in the present quarters. It is suggested that staggered court appearance hours would be beneficial but that staggered court hours would lead to further delay for those charged and additional and unnecessary paperwork for court personnel.

With adaption in mind however, each missed month's docket could be assigned a specific hour, beginning with the March docket at 2:00 pm and calling each subsequent month at the beginning of the following hour. Notice of each hour's docket would be provided via the local newspaper and radio stations. That Notice would also ideally contain instructions for those persons appearing on the docket.

The following instructions are suggested for the Court's present quarters in light of the present state of emergency: the person charged in the citation would sign in on a sheet of paper provided. They would enter the telephone number of their cellular telephone, if they have one in their possession. They will enter the make, model and color of their vehicle if they do not have a suitable telephone.

The persons on that month's docket will then enter the courtroom after screening at the door. Only the person charged will be allowed to enter the courtroom by the east door of the Jamestown City Hall. They will there be subject to a touchless temperature reading. Anyone having a body temperature in excess of 100 will not be allowed entry but will be given a new court date.

Those persons permitted entry will not touch anything in the courtroom as they enter and leave the courtroom. They will approach the bench directly where they will be addressed by the Court, observing all constitutional rights and professional courtesies. Their citation will then be dealt with expeditiously.

Having their citation adjudicated, the person will leave the courtroom by the door on the north side of the Jamestown City Hall. The security personnel at that exit from the courtroom will then alert the next person appearing on that month's docket. The process is continued until that month's docket is completed, hopefully within the hour allotted and the next month's docket will then be called and the

process continued until the backlog is removed. This proposed hourly plan is dependent, of course, on the number of dockets missed and the total number of charges in the citations on each docket.

The Jamestown Municipal Court is fortunate to have two alternatives to the use of the present Chambers in the restricted manner described in this proposed plan. The large courtroom of the Fentress County Justice Center and the Fentress County Commission Chambers (County Court) in the Fentress County Courthouse will both easily accommodate all of the persons charged in the three above identified dockets, and perhaps more, at one session under the COVID-19 CDC Guidelines issued April 24, 2020. Both public rooms offer the ready availability of adequate security, sanitation, restroom facilities and the required social distance available between persons entering the court building and the courtroom. Each courtroom permits seating in alternate rows of benches, allowing the required social distancing between occupants,

Access to both rooms has been granted.

PROPOSALS

Given, therefore the above cited facts, it is proposed that that the

Jamestown Municipal Court be permitted to resume its business the last Friday of
the month of the Order of the Tennessee Supreme Court granting permission to do
so and pursuant to that Order as promulgated by the Presiding Judge of the 8th
Judicial District.

As three appropriate and suitable forums can be made available, it is proposed the Presiding Judge of the 8th District exercise his discretion as to which of the three available courtrooms described above will be designated for the hearing of the necessarily delayed dockets of the Jamestown Municipal Court,

The Jamestown City Police Department shall provide courtroom security and shall be present and be on duty at the door to the court building itself, allowing none but those having received a citation entry, to ensure no cellular telephones, firearms or deadly objects are allowed in the court building.

In-court attendance shall be <u>strictly limited</u> to the party charged. An exception is granted to those persons with physical disabilities to be accompanied by an adult assistant.

Court security personnel shall visually scrutinize all persons allowed entry into the court building and visual scrutiny shall continue in the courtroom for any physical indication of an illness.

Court security shall screen the party charged upon entry with a touchless thermometer upon entry to the court building. Persons seeking entry who present with an elevated body temperature of 100 degrees Fahrenheit shall be refused entry to the court building.

Persons who are refused entry, at the discretion of the security personnel, will be noted as being refused entry and assigned a future court date as soon as feasibly possible. Security will have a copy of that day's printed docket present at the entry of the court building to record those persons refused entry.

Hand sanitizer shall be provided by the City of Jamestown and shall be easily and readily available and shall be applied by each person to their hands prior to entering the courtroom. An exception is allowed only for those persons wearing medically approved gloves upon entry to the court building.

The approved social distance of six (6) feet / (1.823) meters shall be maintained at all times between all persons while entering and leaving the court building and the courtroom, including seating.

The City of Jamestown shall provide hand sanitizer and face masks (if

available) for the persons entering the court building and that all persons entering the courtroom will be urged to_employ both personal safety measures, if available, and to be required to practice social distancing.

Persons entering the courtroom shall refrain from touching any object except their seat and shall not converse nor shake hands nor touch anyone else in the court room.

No one shall enter the court building without a non-contact body temperature check or into the courtroom without applying hand sanitizer and a mask (if available)

A person whose citation has been adjudicated shall leave the courtroom directly and the court building immediately.

In addition, it is proposed that the courtroom doors remain open to eliminate multiple hand contact with the door handles.

A suitable and easily removed means to mark alternating courtroom benches to indicate the 6-foot (1.823 meters) boundary of social distancing shall be employed. This would be necessary in the large courtroom of the Fentress County Justice Center and in the Fentress County Board of Commissioners courtroom. It would not be necessary in the present quarters because the person having the citation would be the only person admitted into the courtroom.

It is proposed that all delayed dockets shall be addressed on the same day in alphabetical and chronological order by person charged and the month scheduled for their appearance in the two larger courtrooms available.

Entry to restroom facilities shall be limited to one person only to be permitted inside the facility at a time. Hand washing and/or hand sanitizer shall be utilized after using the restroom facility. Court personnel will wear a cloth mask and gloves, including the Municipal Court Judge and the Municipal Court Clerk, if feasible.

Persons entering the courtroom to answer their charge(s) shall wear a cloth mask and medically approved gloves, if available.

It is proposed that since the persons on the delayed dockets could all be present in the two large courtrooms, they could be seated appropriately. This would also facilitate the recitation of constitutional rights, including the right of appeal, court procedure, availability of the traffic safety school, and other announcements by addressing the entire group.

Alternatively, each person who signs in at the present facilities could be given a sheet of paper with the necessary and required information and, after ensuring that person could read and write, instruct them to read and sign the paper and turn it in at the entrance to the courtroom when their name is called. If they do not wish to follow these instructions, they will be given a new court date.

The COVID-19 pandemic is, at present, showing only scant evidence of abating anytime soon. Acknowledging this unfortunate fact, the Jamestown Municipal Court stands ready to adopt any Orders and/or amendments to Orders published by the Tennessee Supreme Court and promulgated by the Presiding Judge of the 8th Judicial District.

IN FULFILLMENT, therefore, with the directives of T. S. C. ADM No. 2020-0428 (as amended), Rule 8 and Rule 10 of the Rules of the Supreme Court of Tennessee and COVID-19 Guidelines 2020, the preceding Facts and Proposal are respectfully submitted.

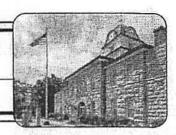
This 5th day of May, 2020.

Thomas H. Potter, Municipal Judge

FENTRESS COUNTY GOVERNMENT

- Jimmy Johnson, County Executive -

101 Main Street | P.O. Box 1128 | Jamestown, TN 38556 | Ph. 931-879-7713 | Fax No. 931-879-1579



4-30-2020

Judge Burnett,

The Fentress County Executive's Office will support any needs of the Courts and the Fentress County Justice Center to ensure any needed equipment or cleaning supplies are available to increase sanitizing protocols or screening measures. Please contact our office if there are specific requests that you have. We will work closely with our EMA Director and TEMA to request equipment that may be hard to obtain.

Thank-you,

Jimmy Johnson

Fentress County Executive



SCOTT COUNTY GENERAL SESSIONS COURT

CRIMINAL, CIVIL PROBATE, JUVENILE, FAMILY LAW & RECOVERY COURT DIVISIONS SCOTT COUNTY JUSTICE CENTER
575 SCOTT HIGH DRIVE, SUITE B • HUNTSVILLE, TENNESSEE 37756

DONNIE PHILLIPS
Gen. Sessions & Circuit Clerk
REPLY TO:
575 SCOTT HIGH DR, STE B
HUNTSVILLE, TN 37756
423-633-2440
423-63-3504
FAX: 423-663-2595

BECKI HARPER Recovery Court Coordinates REPLY TO: P.O. BOX 5011 ONEIDA, TN 37841 423-286-2982 FAX: 423-286-2983

KATHY ELLIS Director Juvenile Detention Center 423-663-3017 FAX: 423-663-2620

PROBATION OFFICE

JAMES L. COTTON, JR.

JUDGE'S OFFICE REPLY TO: P.O. BOX 4656 ONEIDA, TN 37841 423-663-2440 423-663-9504 C/O CLERICS OFFICE

REPORT

To: Hon. Shane Sexton; Senior Judge 8th Judicial District

Re: Report On Covid 19 Court Plan

From: Scott County; General Sessions, Juvenile, Probate Courts

To All Interested Parties:

Our above-listed courts are not deviating from the current Tennessee Supreme Court Plan, with the following exceptions:

- I am expanding the Juvenile/Child Protective Services docket beyond emergency removal proceedings to include adjudicatory hearings, agreed child placement orders and protective orders, and conduct permanency plan reviews. However, I am not allowing children to be brought to court, and encouraging guardian ad litems to us Zoom, skype or telephone to keep in touch with children.
- 2. Only cases of jail inmates are being heard for trial on the criminal docket, with the exception I am taking the pleas and agreed disposition of unincarcerated defendants to ease the logjam of cases that is building. I am conducting all matters that involve jail inmates by zoom or other video feed. These cases involving pleas of unincarcerated defendants are pre-scheduled and staggered. I am continuing to conduct arraignments on unincarcerated defendants on a weekly basis rather than defer them, so the docket will not be overburdened in the near future; to do this, we have set up a video station outside of our Justice Center building, undercover, where the court will be arraigning non-jail cases. This avoids these people from coming inside the building, and their attorneys will observe the process on a big screen located in the courtroom, where contact information will be gathered for the appointed attorney.
- 3. I am taking up uncontested probate matters, agreed divorces and custody matters through pre-scheduling with the Clerk.

4. I am proceeding with plenary (final) hearings in order of protection cases. We are finding that petitioners (victims) are becoming frustrated and losing confidence in the system with the hearing delays, and safety concerns are rising because respondents have not appeared before a court and felt the significance and seriousness of the case. All petitioners participate in these trials by Zoom at the Family Justice Center, and the protocols below otherwise apply.

In all of our cases, the following protocols currently prevail:

- (a) Public is not permitted to attend, only attorneys, litigants, witnesses and service providers in juvenile cases ("case participants"). If the issue of public attendance is raised (which has not happened), the case will be reset.
- (b) Case Participants who are litigants or witnesses are given a number at the front door of the Justice Center by court officers, and remain in the parking lot until they are paged by newly installed outside speakers on the building.
- (c) At the front door, all case participants have their temperature taken, are asked the standard screening questions for the virus and required to wear a mask (which is provided). Then they are seated in the courtroom under the direction of a court officer for appropriate social distancing.
- (d) Under no circumstances are more than ten (10) persons contemporaneously allowed in a courtroom.
- (e) Cases times are being staggered, to reduce gatherings in the parking lot.
- (f) Health supplies (disinfectant wipes, hand sanitizers and gloves) are available for each counsel table in the courtrooms. Each evening before court days, a fogger is used to disinfect the lobby and courtrooms of the Justice Center facility.
- (g) Zoom and live telephone participation in our courtrooms are being heavily used. No inmates are brought into the courtroom from the jail.

Submitted By.

James L. Cotton, Jr.

General Sessions Judg

IN THE MUNICIPAL COURT FOR THE TOWN OF ONEIDA, TENNESSEE

IN RE: COVID-19 PANDEMIC

ORDER

On March 13, 2020, in response to the COVID-19 pandemic, the Chief Justice of the Tennessee Supreme Court declared a state of emergency for the Judicial Branch of Tennessee government and activated a Continuity of Operations Plan for the courts of Tennessee. See Tenn. Const. Art. VI, § 1; Tenn. Code Ann. §§ 16-3-501 to 16-3-504 (2009); Moore-Pennoyer v. State, 515 S.W.3d 271, 276-77 (Tenn. 2017); Tenn. Sup. Ct. R. 49. This state of emergency constitutes a "disaster" for purposes of Tenn. Sup. Ct. R. 49 and Tenn. Code Ann. § 28-1-116. On March 25, 2020, the Tennessee Supreme Court continued the suspension of in-person court proceedings and the extension of deadlines.

This Court shall continue to fully abide by and follow all Orders of the Tennessee Supreme Court. It is so Ordered and Entered this 6 day of May, 2020.

Philip K. Kazee, Municipal Court Judge



UNION COUNTY GENERAL SESSIONS & JUVENILE COURT

Office of the Judge

P.O. Box 789 Maynardville, TN 37807 865-992-7375

COVID-19 PANDEMIC AND UNION COUNTY JUVENILE AND GENERAL SESSIONS COURTS

The Supreme Court of Tennessee released an Order Suspending In-Person Court proceedings as of Friday, March 13, 2020 and extending that Order to April 30, 2020. On April 24, 2020 the Tennessee Supreme Court issued an order modifying the previous order. The Courts shall submit a plan to be approved by the Chief Justice to allow in-person court proceedings. In order to do so, the Juvenile and General Sessions Courts of Union County Tennessee shall implement the following comprehensive written plan for nonemergency matters. Pursuant to said order, Union County Juvenile Court and General Sessions Court shall institute emergency safety guidelines. This is to ensure the safety and well-being of all necessary parties and individuals who must be present in the Courts. Additionally, the following shall be in effect if properly approved by the presiding Judge of the 8th Judicial District of the State of Tennessee and the Supreme Court of the State of Tennessee:

In regards to Juvenile Court:

- 1) All cases shall be called one at a time. All persons scheduled to appear in Court shall wait in their vehicle until their respective cases are called for hearing.
- 2) Only individuals scheduled on the docket shall be permitted into the Courthouse as regards a hearing. A list shall be provided by the Court Clerk, or her designee, to the bailiffs at the rear ADA assessable door of the Courthouse listing persons who are scheduled for hearing.
- 3) Individuals on the docket shall check in with the bailiff at the rear ADA assessable entrance and provide their phone number or where they are parked in order to be called in for a hearing.
- 4) Persons entering the Courthouse for court hearings shall enter the back of the Union County Courthouse, which is the only ADA compliant entrance at the Union County Courthouse.
- 5) If any individual who is scheduled to be in court has any COVID-19 symptoms or exposure concerns the bailiff shall notify the Court via walkie-talkie for further instructions.
- 6) If Masks become available to Court they will be provided to any person who has a court hearing or court business. It shall be the decision of the individual entering the building to determine whether they want a mask provided to them if a mask is available.
- 7) When a case has been scheduled for hearing, when the case is called, if the respective attorney or necessary party is not present when said case is called said case shall be immediately rescheduled. The case shall not be heard on that particular day.
- 8) Social distancing shall be enforced inside the Courtroom and hallways at all times. Except for the Judge, Clerk or her designee, Youth Services Office, Security, and attorney for the plaintiff/petitioner and their client, attorney for defendant/respondent and their client there shall be no more than 10 in the Courtroom. Witness shall be called in on a one at a time biases.

- 9) Witnesses for cases may be seated in the hallway in the designated seating area marked. Witnesses cannot exceed the number of designated spots.
- 10) All lawyers, State agencies, etc. shall exit the Courtroom after their case has been heard.
- 11) Nonessential individuals shall not be allowed in the Courtroom or hallway outside the Courtroom during any Court proceedings provided; however, individuals who have business with the respective Court offices are not prohibited from being in the hallway outside the Courtroom.
- 12) No children shall be permitted to Court, unless they are a defendant or preapproved by the Court.
- 13) All truancy cases will resume after school begins in the 2020-2021 session.
- 14) Any matters that can be heard via Zoom or electronic means shall be arranged. Attorneys shall notify the Juvenile Office of said matters.
- 15) The hallway and Courtroom shall be thoroughly disinfected and sanitized every evening. Failure to show proof of thorough disinfecting with recognized COVID-19 disinfectants shall lead to Court being potentially cancelled.

In regards to General Sessions Court:

- 1) All cases shall be called one at a time. All persons scheduled to appear in Court shall wait in their vehicle until their respective cases are called for hearing.
- 2) Only individuals scheduled on the docket shall be permitted into the Courthouse. A list shall be provided by the Court Clerk, or her designee, to the bailiffs at the rear ADA assessable door of the Courthouse listing persons who are scheduled for hearing.
- 3) Individuals on the docket shall check in with the bailiff at the rear ADA assessable entrance and provide their phone number or where they are parked in order to be called in for a hearing.
- 4) Persons entering the Courthouse for court hearings shall enter the back of the Union County Courthouse, which is the only ADA compliant entrance at the Union County Courthouse.
- 5) If any individual who is scheduled to be in court has any COVID-19 symptoms or exposure concerns the bailiff shall notify the Court via walkie-talkie for further instructions.
- 6) If Masks become available to Court they will be provided to any person who has a court hearing or court business. It shall be the decision of the individual entering the building to determine whether they want a mask provided to them if a mask is available.
- 7) When a case has been scheduled for hearing, when the case is called, if the respective attorney or necessary party is not present when said case is called said case shall be immediately rescheduled. The case shall not be heard on that particular day.
- 8) Social distancing shall be enforced inside the Courtroom and hallways at all times. Except for the Judge, Clerk or her designee, Youth Services Office, Security, and attorney for the plaintiff/petitioner and their client, attorney for defendant/respondent and their client there shall be no more than 10 in the Courtroom. Witness shall be called in on a one at a time bases.
- 9) Witnesses for cases may be seated in the hallway in the designated seating area marked.
 Witnesses cannot exceed the number of designated spots.

- 10) Courtesy recommendations from the Court 1) schedule preliminary and motion hearings when you are certain that a preliminary or motion hearings will take place or the case will be settled. This will cut down on the number of people required to be at court. If you have a matter set that will not settle or will not be heard for preliminary or motion hearings please do not have parties or witnesses at the Courthouse.
- 11) All lawyers, State agencies, etc. shall exit the Courtroom after their case has been heard.
- 12) Nonessential individuals shall not be allowed in the Courtroom or hallway outside the Courtroom during any Court proceedings provided, however, individuals who have business with the respective Court offices are not prohibited from being in the hallway outside the Courtroom.
- 13) No children shall be permitted to the Courtroom or hallway. If a child shall be a necessary witness in General Sessions Court the child shall be remain in their vehicle until the case is called.
- 14) The hallway and Courtroom shall be thoroughly disinfected and sanitized every evening. Failure to show proof of thorough disinfecting with recognized COVID-19 disinfectants shall lead to Court being potentially cancelled.
- 15) Any matters that can be heard via Zoom or electronic means shall be arranged. Attorneys shall notify the General Sessions Court Office of said matters.

4	ENTER THIS THE $_$	DAY	OF APRIL, 2020		
General Ses	Darryl W. Edmondson I Sessions and Juvenile Judge for Union County, Tennessee				

CITY OF MAYNARDVILLE POLICE DEPARTMENT

125 Johnson Rd.

Maynardville, In. 37807

(865) 992-3822 Phone (865) 992-3850 Fax

CHIEF OF POLICE

ROGER L. RICHARDSON

Attention: Courts

The Maynardville Municipal Court will be reopening on June 3, 2020 at 1pm for business. The court room has approximately 1400sq. feet of space with adequate heating and air for exchange of air quality. The court will be keeping with the recommended Covid-19 guidelines of safety set forth by limiting a maximum of 10 violators and/or attorneys only allowed inside the court room with social distancing being required. As for court personnel including the Judge, Clerk and prosecuting officers, they will be seated with a minimum of six feet of space between them.

If there are any questions or concerns please feel free to contact us.

Court Clerk, Roger L. Richardson

Date

Town of Plainview

Municipal court for the Town of Plainview will not meet until June 2020.