

STATE OF OHIO	)	BEREA MUNICIPAL COURT
	)	
COUNTY OF CUYAHOGA	)	JOURNAL ENTRY
	)	
CITY OF BERA	)	MARCH 23, 2020

**IN RE: TEMPORARY ORDER IN RESPONSE TO THE COVID-19 PUBLIC HEALTH EMERGENCY**

The Berea Municipal Court makes the following Finding of Fact:

On March 9, 2020 Ohio Governor Mike DeWine issued Executive Order 2020-01D “Declaring a State of Emergency” in response to the growing COVID-19 public health emergency.

On March 22, 2020 Ohio Department of Health Director Doctor Amy Action issued a “Stay at Home Order” effective March 23, 2020 11:59pm, in response to avoid the threat of widespread exposure to COVID-19.


In response to this public health emergency and Department of Health Order, the Judge of the Berea Municipal Court is modifying its operation for the protection of all court users and employees. Therefore, the Berea Municipal Court is modifying its schedule and daily operations in order to protect the public while maintaining essential court functions and protecting the rights of all individuals subject to the authority of the Court. taking measures to minimize the number of people who need to come to the courthouse at this time.

Therefore, it is hereby ordered:

1. Effective March 23, 2020 and until further Order of the Court, no person shall be admitted into the courthouse, except court employees or other persons designated by the Clerk of Court or Presiding Judge. All courthouse entrances shall remain locked at all times.
2. The extending of Speedy Trial rights; Pursuant to O.R.C. §2945.72(H) all continuances made during the public health emergency shall be granted, the Court finds that such a continuance is not only reasonable, but also necessary to protect public health.
3. Local Rules of Court may be temporarily adapted to allow Court flexibility, within Constitutional limits.
4. Court Security policies may be temporarily amended to protect the public health.
5. The Court will remain open and functioning during the public health crises with additional restrictions:
  - a. No person shall be permitted to enter the building not having Court business on said day,
  - b. No person shall be permitted to enter the building you identifies or is displaying signs of illness,
  - c. At any time, the Judge, Bailiff, Clerk, Security, or staff member of the Court designated by those listed may order any person removed from the Court for reasons as stated above.

6. The bond schedule effective November 1, 2014 shall be amended by "COVID-19 Public Health Emergency Police Protocol" issued on March 16, 2020 to local law enforcement, said Protocol shall be reviewed regularly.
7. The scheduling of Traffic/Criminal matters shall be reviewed on a continuing basis, all changes to the scheduling shall be amended by protocol issued to the Clerk of Court's Office.
8. No warrant for Failure to Appear shall be issued effective March 16, 2020 until further notice, excluding felony continuation of initial appearance hearings.
9. The scheduling of Civil matters shall be reviewed on a continuing basis, all changes to the scheduling shall be amended by protocol issued to the Clerk of Court's Office.
10. All bailiff service is suspended effective March 20, 2020 and shall resume by order of the Court.
11. The office of Probation shall comply with the "Community Control Non-face-to-face Appointments" Protocol issued by the Chief Community Control Officer (CCO). Such protocol may be amended by the CCO as needed.
12. The operation hours of the Court are subject to change at the discretion of the Clerk of Court's and Judge of the Berea Municipal Court.
13. Employee's work hours may be adjusted to accommodate the needs of the Court, to ensure the health of staff, and to minimize the risk of exposure during the Public Health Emergency.

IT IS SO ORDERED.

  
3/23/20  
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MARK A. COMSTOCK, JUDGE

Attest:

  
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RAYMOND J. WOHL  
CLERK OF COURT

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