
AMENDED TEMPORARY ORDER REGARDING ACCESS TO AND PARTICIPATION IN COURT HEARINGS

WHEREAS, on March 22 the Wisconsin Supreme Court entered orders suspending most in-person hearings through April 30 and suspending all jury trials through May 22 in the circuit courts; and,

WHEREAS, the March 22 order suspending in-person hearings authorized, subject to the approval of the chief judge of the judicial district, exceptions to such suspension; and,

WHEREAS, on March 23, Chief Judge Robert VanDeHey of the Seventh Judicial District authorized, in writing several specific exceptions to the suspension of in-person hearings (see attached); and,

WHEREAS, the Wisconsin Supreme Court has adopted an interim rule suspending the deadlines for non-criminal jury trials. The interim rule is in effect until May 1 and it is anticipated at the time of the adoption of this amended order that the interim rule will be extended beyond that date; and,

WHEREAS, on April 15 the Wisconsin Supreme Court extended the suspension of most in-person hearings until further notice.

NOW, THEREFORE, IT IS HEREBY ORDERED that, in order to comply with and facilitate the aforementioned orders, the following is ordered regarding hearings in the Adams County Circuit Court until the Wisconsin Supreme Court withdraws the suspension of in-person hearings:

1. **JURY TRIALS:** All jury trials scheduled through May 22 will be rescheduled. A telephone scheduling conference will be set for each such case.
2. **BAIL HEARINGS:** Bail hearings will be held at the usual dates and times. Inmates will appear via videoconference; the prosecutor and public defender will both contact the court via telephone.
3. **INITIAL APPEARANCES:** Two hearing times will be set; one for cases with represented defendants and one for unrepresented defendants. The Zoom meeting platform will be used.
4. **PRELIMINARY HEARINGS AND PLEA AND/OR SENTENCING HEARINGS:** Notice will be given to the parties that the hearing will be via Zoom **UNLESS** the defense attorney, or the defendant if unrepresented, files a written request with the clerk at least 48 hours before the hearing to either adjourn the hearing or, if it meets

the criteria in in Judge VanDeHey's list of exceptions, to hold the hearing in-person. The court will respond to such a request as soon as possible.

5. TRAFFIC: All court trials will be conducted via Zoom. Not guilty pleas may be entered by telephone or in writing by US Mail. On traffic intake days, notices will be posted on courthouse entry doors that not guilty pleas may be entered by telephone prior to 12 noon that day.
6. SMALL CLAIMS INTAKE: Intake will be conducted via Zoom.
7. OTHER HEARINGS: Except for telephone scheduling conferences, telephonic jury status conferences or other hearings scheduled to be held via telephone, all other criminal, civil, family, juvenile and guardianship/probate hearings will be held via Zoom. If a party objects to holding the hearing via Zoom, a written request for adjournment may be made at least 48 hours before the scheduled start time of the hearing. Such a request must set forth a specific basis for why conducting the hearing via Zoom is not appropriate. The court will respond to the request as soon as possible.
8. EXHIBITS: Any exhibit that a party intends to introduce at a hearing should be filed with the court at least 24 hours before the hearing. If the other party is not represented by counsel and therefore unable to access the electronic case file, by the same deadline a copy of the exhibit should be provided to the other party.
9. IN-PERSON HEARINGS: In the event conferencing technology is not available, not operational or otherwise not practicable for a hearing type included in Judge VanDeHey's list of exceptions, the court reserves the option of scheduling an in-person hearing.
10. NOTICE OF HEARING: For any hearing held via Zoom, an invitation to participate will be given to the parties via a Notice of Hearing.
11. COURTROOM ACCESS: In order to provide consistency with the order of Adams County government authorities to restrict public access to the rest of the courthouse complex, public access to the courtrooms, register in probate's office and clerk of court's office will be limited to by-appointment-only. Please see section 12 below for contact information. Signs will also be posted at the public entrances detailing how to contact the court offices. The ongoing need for closure will be monitored.
12. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION: The public may observe any on-the-record hearing that is not otherwise confidential by joining the Zoom meeting. Information on accessing the Zoom meeting can be obtained by contacting the clerk of court via phone at (608) 339-4208 or by email at lori.banovec@wicourts.gov. The register in probate can be reached at (608) 339-4213 or by email at chris.langer@wicourts.gov.

Dated this 28th day of April, 2020.

Daniel G. Wood, Adams County Circuit Court Judge

COVID-19 REMOTE HEARINGS - EXCEPTIONS

WHEREAS: The Wisconsin Supreme Court in light of the COVID-19 Statewide and National states of emergency has entered certain orders related to the operations of the Circuit Court regarding in-person appearances and jury trials.

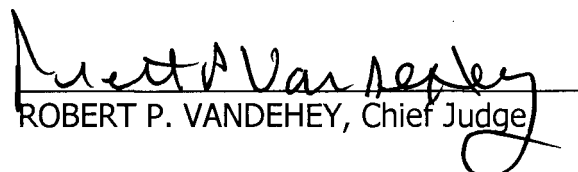
WHEREAS: The Wisconsin Supreme Court has indicated that certain hearings may be in person if remote technology is not practicable or adequate to address the case.

WHEREAS: The Wisconsin Supreme Court order grants to the Chief Judge, the authority to make exception to the video conferencing order when appropriate to protect the constitutional rights of the citizens of Wisconsin.

If video or teleconferencing is unavailable despite best efforts, the following hearings which impact constitutional rights may be heard in person:

1. **CRIMINAL**
 - a. Bail/Bond hearings and initial appearances
 - b. Preliminary hearings for in-custody defendants
 - c. Any hearing for which the person is in custody only based on the case at bar
 - d. Pleas and sentencings of individuals in custody
2. **CIVIL**
 - a. Emergency Writs for Mandamus, Habeas Corpus, Certiorari, or injunctive relief
 - b. Restraining orders (harassment, DV, or individual at risk)
3. **GUARDIANSHIP/ME/PROBATE**
 - a. Temporary and full petitions for guardianship and protective placement
 - b. ME hearings (initial and final)
4. **FAMILY**
 - a. Emergency orders to enforce placement or custody, or to relocate
5. **JUVENILE**
 - a. Temporary physical custody requests in Chs. 48 and 938
6. Any other exceptions should be requested either by emailing or calling me.

Dated this 23rd day of March, 2020


ROBERT P. VANDEHEY, Chief Judge