ORDER REGARDING EMERGENCY TEMPORARY MEASURES

The Marquette County Circuit Court is issuing the attached guidelines to provide procedures and directions for proceedings and essential functions in the court during the next several weeks. These Guidelines are Emergency and Temporary Measures ONLY effective from March 16, 2020 until April 17, 2020, or upon further Order of the Court. The Marquette County courthouse remains open and any change in status will be noticed on the Marquette County website at http://www.co.marquette.wi.us/home and the Wisconsin Court system website, www.wicourts.gov

The World Health Organization declared a global pandemic of COVID-19 due to widespread human infection worldwide. We are monitoring this situation and are committed to open access to our courts and service to the public, and to protect the health and safety of the litigants, judges, court staff and security, attorneys, jurors, other participants in court proceedings, and all other persons in the court facilities.

These guidelines are in place to ensure the continuous performance of the court's essential functions and operations and yet seek to mitigate the risk that our employees, lawyers, litigants, and jurors will be exposed. The guidelines incorporate use of videoconferencing and teleconferencing to minimize contact, when appropriate; follow social distancing practices; and temporarily suspend some non-essential court functions.

Cases will proceed as currently scheduled unless otherwise notified by the court. Please note that injunction hearings, criminal preliminary hearings, and mental commitment hearings should be presumed to be proceeding as originally scheduled UNLESS the parties have specifically been informed otherwise by the court.

For more information on any specific case, please call Mariah Goodwin, judicial assistant at (608) 297-3009 or the Marquette County Clerk of Court's Office at (608)297-3005.

Dated this 16th day of March, 2020.

HON. CHAD A. HENDEE

MARQUETTE COUNTY CIRCUIT COURT JUDGE

TEMPORARY AND EMERGENCY GUIDELINES FOR MARQUETTE COUNTY CIRCUIT COURT CASES

1. These hearings will continue as normal with appearances in person

Marquette County Treatment Court
Emergency Commitments
Temporary Physical Custody Requests
Preliminary Hearings (Time limits not waived)
Adoptions
Termination of Parental Rights
Restraining Orders

2. JURY TRIALS

All jury trials scheduled prior to May 8, 2020, will be rescheduled.

3. CRIMINAL CASES

The intent of the court is to have as many cases as possible by phone or video means. Attorneys or unrepresented defendants should contact the judicial assistant at (608)297-3009 or clerk of court at (608)297-3005 PRIOR to the court date to let the court know what number the party can be reached at. Counsel will be allowed to appear on behalf of their clients on all types of cases during this time period.

An adjournment of any hearing may be requested.

4. <u>CHILD SUPPORT</u>

All child support hearings will be rescheduled until after April 17, 2020.

5. <u>FAMILY LAW/DIVORCES</u>

Any scheduled hearings will be conducted by phone unless the Judge or Family Court Commissioner requires a personal appearance. The parties are required to call (608)297-3009 or (608)297-3005 PRIOR to the court date to let the court know what number the party can be reached at. Requests to reschedule should be directed to (608)-297-3009.

6. <u>JUVENILE</u>

Initial custody and plea hearings in any juvenile delinquency or juvenile in need of protection and services cases shall be conducted by video or telephone when available if a youth is housed in a detention or shelter facility. All other juveniles may appear by telephone or inperson. Attorneys and social workers should contact the court for permission to appear by telephone. Dispositional hearings shall be in person unless the court determines otherwise. The

court will find good cause if a decision is made to set the matter over.

7. PROBATE

All probate hearings will occur by phone. The parties are required to call (608)297-3009 or (608)297-3005 PRIOR to the court date to let the court know what number the party can be reached at. Requests to reschedule should be directed to (608)-297-3009.

8. <u>SMALL CLAIMS</u>

There shall be no mandatory appearances for any cases

Defendants may

File a written Answer with the Clerk of Court's Office before the return date

File a written Answer at the Clerk of Court's office by 1:45 pm of the return date

Evictions and Contempt hearings will be held by phone. The parties are required to call (608)297-3009 or (608)297-3005 PRIOR to the court date to let the court know what number the party can be reached at. Requests to reschedule should be directed to (608)-297-3009.

9. CIVIL CASES

Any scheduled hearing will be conducted by phone. The parties are required to call (608)297-3009 or (608)297-3005 PRIOR to the court date to let the court know what number the party can be reached at. Requests to reschedule should be directed to (608)-297-3009.