

TEMPORARY EMERGENCY ORDER

The Waushara County Circuit Court is issuing this Order in response to the COVID-19 health crisis. On March 13, 2020, Governor Tony Evers declared a public health emergency in Wisconsin. The court will continue to monitor this situation and will remain committed to protecting the health and safety of anyone participating in the legal process while continuing to maintain an open, public and efficient court system. This Order shall be in effect from March 18, 2020 until May 15, 2020, or until further Order of the Court.

GENERAL PRINCIPLES:

- A. All currently scheduled proceedings will remain calendared unless an adjournment is requested and authorized by the court.
- B. Videoconferencing, telephone and other forms of communication shall be used whenever possible. (Persons appearing in this manner must make prior arrangements with the Clerk of Courts office no less than 24 hours in advance.)
- C. Proceedings that do not require personal appearance will still be scheduled between March 18, 2020 and May 15, 2020.
- D. Hearings requiring personal appearance are adjourned until after May 15, 2020 UNLESS THE PARTICIPANT WAIVES PERSONAL APPEARANCE and requests to participate via telephone, teleconference or other form of communication. Arrangements for waiver must be made with the Clerk of Courts Office 24 hours before the hearing.
- E. All time sensitive hearings will be conducted in due course. Participants may appear by videoconference or telephone with prior approval from the Clerk of Courts office.
- F. No jury trials will be held until after May 15, 2020.

- G. No inmate transports will occur until after May 15, 2020. Any existing criminal transport orders are cancelled. A waiver of personal appearance will still be accepted.
- H. All appearances before the Family Court Commissioner may be telephonic unless an evidentiary hearing (witness testimony taken).
- I. Treatment Court participants shall appear as scheduled, by telephone. The existing testing procedure shall be followed without interruption.

PROCEEDINGS REQUIRING PERSONAL APPEARANCE

- 1. All criminal cases. Only exceptions: bond hearings and status conferences.
- 2. Temporary Physical Custody
- 3. Mental health final hearings
- 4. Termination of Parental Rights
- 5. All evidentiary hearings (witness testimony taken)

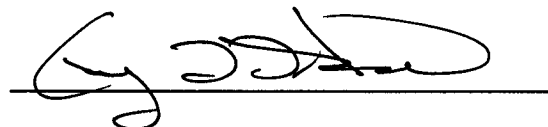
ALL OTHER PROCEEDINGS DO NOT REQUIRE PERSONAL APPEARANCE –

Participation by teleconference or telephone is encouraged

TIME SENSITIVE PROCEEDINGS- UNLESS TIME LIMITATIONS ARE WAIVED

- 1. Criminal bond hearings
- 2. Preliminary hearings
- 3. Temporary Physical Custody hearings
- 4. Injunction hearings
- 5. All juvenile hearings
- 6. Mental health hearings

Dated at Wautoma, Wisconsin this 17th day of March, 2020.



Guy D. Dutcher

Circuit Court Judge