

**IN THE COMMON PLEAS COURT OF ERIE COUNTY, OHIO
GENERAL, PROBATE AND JUVENILE DIVISIONS**

IN RE:

**Entry and Order for certain
Restrictions to the use, occupancy
and traffic for the Courthouse
Facility located at 323 Columbus
Avenue, Sandusky, Ohio**

CASE NO.

2020-MS-0051

FILED
COMMON PLEAS COURT
ERIE COUNTY, OHIO
2020 MAY 14 AM 9:42
LUCAS S. WILSON
CLERK OF COURTS

The Erie County Common Pleas Court Judges make the following findings with respect to the current Public Health Crisis associated with the COVID-19 Coronavirus:

1. A state of emergency in the United States of America has been declared by executive orders signed by President Donald J. Trump on March 13, 2020;
2. A state of emergency in the State of Ohio has been declared by executive orders signed by Governor Mike DeWine on March 9, 2020;
3. On March 11, 2020, the World Health Organization officially declared COVID-19 to be a global pandemic requiring urgent and aggressive action to control spread of the virus;
4. In the days since March 9, 2020, additional information has resulted in additional executive orders banning gatherings of over a certain size – which orders have lowered with each passing benchmark of additional cases being diagnosed in Ohio, closing schools, nursing homes and then bars and restaurants, and impacting upon jails and prisons;
5. Members of the public at large, and specifically parties, witnesses, jurors and other participants in legal proceedings, are at risk for getting the virus may infect others even before they are symptomatic;
6. The Court has an obligation to administer justice and maintain a functioning judicial system, while also having an obligation to protect first and foremost those who are in the courts' custody and other participants in judicial proceedings from this deadly disease.

This Entry and Order is effective May 4, 2020.

IT IS HEREBY ORDERED THAT:

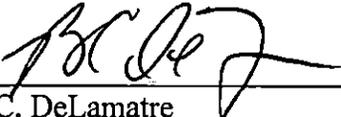
1. **LOCAL RULES OF COURT:** The local rules of court for all divisions may be temporarily adapted to allow court flexibility, within constitutional limits, in response to the public health emergency.

2. SECURITY POLICIES: The Courthouse security policies may be temporarily amended or supplemented to protect the public health while maintaining essential court functions, including limitation of access to proceedings by those who are symptomatic or have been exposed to those who are symptomatic, and to take action to limit risks to others.
3. THE COURTHOUSE: The courthouse is OPEN with restrictions. No one will be permitted to enter the courthouse unless they have an emergency filing that is in a form ready to be processed and filed, they have a hearing that is verified to be proceeding or they have made prior arrangements and have received the approval of a Judge or the Clerk of Courts. Security screeners may deny entry to anyone without an essential purpose or without approval for entry.
4. COURTHOUSE SCREENING:
 - a. Security Screening-All persons entering the Courthouse are subject to normal security screening.
 - b. Health screening-All persons entering the Courthouse may be subject to health screening, including but not limited to the taking of body temperature, and exclusion from admission based upon the results of such screening or testing.
5. RESTRICTIONS: No individual, including but not limited to staff, county employees, attorneys litigants or members of the public, shall enter or remain in the Courthouse if ANY of the following apply:
 - He or She has a fever;
 - He or She exhibits all three of the following symptoms: 1) respiratory symptoms (chronic cough), 2) sore throat and 3) shortness of breath;
 - He or She has traveled out of the country within the last 14days;
 - He or She has been in contact with a person who is under investigation or has tested positive for the coronavirus.
 - b. Any person entering the courthouse may be subject to health care screening including but not limited to the taking of body temperature or answering a questionnaire, and exclusion from admission may be made based upon the results of such screening or testing.
 - c. All individuals shall maintain appropriate social distancing of 6 feet where possible.
 - d. All persons entering the Courthouse shall wear a facial covering when entering or doing business in the Courthouse. Face coverings will be provided to those without one. Each Court shall have the right to waive this requirement, upon a showing of good cause.

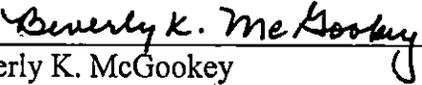
6. **POLICY ENFORCEMENT:** The Erie County Sherriff is instructed and authorized to enforce the restrictions and limitations enacted herein and otherwise in response to this emergency.

This Entry and Order shall be posted conspicuously throughout the Courthouse and on the County's website.

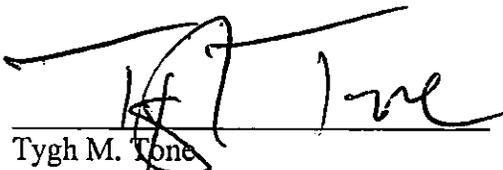
IT IS SO ORDERED.



Robert C. DeLamatre
Juvenile Court Judge



Beverly K. McGookey
General Division Judge



Tygh M. Tone
General Division Judge

 5/13/2020

Roger E. Binette
General Division Judge