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6. All small claims and proceeding supplemental cases will be postponed through at least April 13, pending further notice. Parties should check mycase.in.gov for more information on the rescheduled dates.
7. For civil cases that cannot be reset to a later date, or those that are to be held at the discretion of the court, can be held via telephonic or video court.
8. For criminal cases involving incarcerated defendants, all hearings will be conducted via remote access, when possible, at the discretion of the court. The calendar of these cases will be subject to availability and the parties should be in contact with the individual courts to determine said schedule.
9. For all other cases, access to the courtrooms is restricted to attorneys and parties to the case. The Courts will take reasonable steps to limit the number of people attending hearings and trials to those who are essential to the proceedings being conducted. Witnesses, family and friends shall remain outside the courtroom, and preferably in their vehicles. Witnesses will be notified to enter the courtroom only upon the necessity to testify.
10. Individuals are encouraged to telephone the courts to identify how they can email all correspondence and requests to courthouse offices. Cases and documents can continue to be filed through the statewide system. Parties can continue to view case information on mycase.in.gov.
11. Any request for continuance shall be granted upon “good cause” which shall include the following: 1) the existence of flu or flu-like symptoms in any attorney, party/litigant, or witness; or 2) the exposure of any such person to any other person who has or may have COVID-19.

12. The Courts may, on their own motion or by motion of party, continue any civil or criminal hearing, provided that such postponements are consistent with the rights of the parties and the interests of justice.
13. Each Court will also support and encourage compliance with mandatory preventative measures like quarantines and isolations, protect potentially vulnerable staff, and be prepared for situations that will impact court staff. Each judicial officer will have the discretion to authorize and require staff to work from home, considering the following non-exclusive set of guidelines:
 - a. Employees under official quarantine/isolation orders from the local health department or their medical doctor are authorized to work from home without further approval needed.
 - b. The following factors shall be used for the authorization of staff employees tangentially affected by the Health Emergency:
 - i. Age and capacity of children affected by school or childcare closures;
 - ii. Availability of additional spouse/family support;
 - iii. Underlying medical conditions or vulnerabilities;
 - iv. Evidence of symptoms;
 - v. Nature of the employee's job and ability to be performed remotely; and
 - vi. Availability of resources to support remote work by the employee.
14. Probation and Court Ordered Services shall be modified as follows: In-person client reporting requirements for March 16, 2020 through April 13, 2020 will be suspended at the discretion of the Probation Department. These reporting activities shall be conducted via telephonic and video conferencing. All pretrial release operations will be suspended through April 13, 2020.
15. The judicial officers will remain in regular communication with the Johnson County Clerk, the Johnson County Board of Commissioners, the Johnson County Board of Health,

20S-CB-158

IN THE INDIANA SUPREME COURT**CASE No: 20S-CB-
CAUSE NO. 41C01-2003-CB-000004****JOHNSON COUNTY COURTS EMERGENCY PETITION PURSUANT TO
ADMINISTRATIVE RULE 17**

Comes now the Courts of Johnson County and petition the Supreme Court for relief under Ind. Administrative Rule 17. In support of this petition, the courts inform the Supreme Court as follows:

The courts of Johnson County have convened in banc and determined:

1. A public health emergency has been declared in Indiana concerning the 2019 novel coronavirus (COVID-19).
2. The State of Indiana has twenty-four confirmed cases of COVID-19, including one fatality
3. Johnson County, Indiana has confirmed three cases of COVID-19 as of March 16, 2020.
4. The Governor of the State of Indiana has restricted all nonessential gatherings, has ordered restaurants and bars closed to in-person customers, and is encouraging businesses to utilize telework policies if available.
5. The Indiana State Department of Health strongly recommends that non-essential gatherings of 50 people or more be postponed or canceled
6. The Center for Disease control recommends using videoconferencing when possible and no in-person events of more than 50 people.
7. All public schools in Johnson County are closed.
8. The Johnson County Jail is limiting access to inmates to counsel only.
9. The judges of the Johnson County courts have appointed the Honorable Peter D. Nugent as presiding Judge for this emergency.

The judges of Johnson County request that the Supreme Court declare that an emergency exists under the authority of Ind. Admin. R. 17, and to make appropriate emergency orders for Johnson County to alter, modify, and suspend necessary procedures as provided in the emergency plan submitted herewith, so as to appropriately address this emergency.

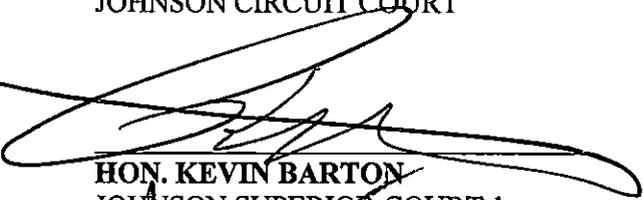
Done at Franklin, Indiana, this 17th day of March, 2020.

41C01-2003-CB-000004
ADM
Administrative Event
2708142

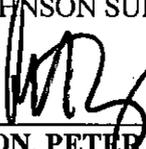




HON. ANDREW S. ROESENER
JOHNSON CIRCUIT COURT



HON. KEVIN BARTON
JOHNSON SUPERIOR COURT 1



HON. PETER D. NUGENT
JOHNSON SUPERIOR COURT 2



HON. LANCE D. HAMNER
JOHNSON SUPERIOR COURT 3



HON. MARLA CLARK
JOHNSON SUPERIOR COURT 4

IN RE: THE MATTER OF REQUESTING
EMERGENCY RELIEF UNDER INDIANA
ADMINISTRATIVE RULE 17

EMERGENCY PLAN

The Judges of the Johnson County Circuit Court, Johnson County Superior Courts 1, 2, 3 and 4 (collectively the “Courts”) being aware of the challenges presented to all by COVID-19 (the “Health Emergency”) adopt and approve the following administrative orders as temporary measures to protect the health and safety of the community and also provide access to justice. This Order shall apply to the Johnson Circuit Court, Johnson Superior Court 1, Johnson Superior Court 2, Johnson Superior Court 3, Johnson Superior Court 4, Johnson Magistrate Court and Johnson Juvenile and Family Court (“Courts”), as follows:

The Courts expect the effects of the Health Emergency to require extra consideration for at least several weeks. As such, for the immediate future, the Courts will take the following actions beginning March 16, 2020 through April 13, 2020:

1. Individuals who are scheduled for a court hearing from March 16, 2020 through April 13, 2020 should consult mycase.in.gov or contact your attorney to receive advice of counsel to verify your court date.
2. All civil jury trials will be postponed through at least April 13, pending further notice.
3. All criminal jury trials will be postponed through at least April 13, pending further notice, provided that such postponements are consistent with the rights of the parties and the interests of justice. The Courts hereby declare an emergency for purposes of Criminal Rule 4 through April 13, 2020, subject to extension by further order of the Courts.
4. Only essential and emergency court proceedings shall continue during this time, and will be conducted in a manner that assures access to justice, with extra measures of safety.
5. Attendance at hearings by telephone and video conferencing, including but not limited to all hearings involving defendants in criminal cases, will be encouraged whenever possible and when consistent with the rights of the parties and the interests of justice. Appearances by telephone and video conferencing will be at the discretion of the individual courts.

Attorneys and parties shall communicate with the individual courts on these telephonic and video needs.

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