

20S-CB-242

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Union City City Court
Union City, Indiana

Rule AR 17 Petition

Comes now the Union City City Court and petitions the Supreme Court of Indiana for relief under Administrative Rule 17. In support of this petition, the Court informs the Supreme Court as follows:

1. The Judge of the Union City City Court has convened with the City of Union City's Executive Administration and have determined:
 - a. That the President of the United States of America has declared a national emergency due to the COVID-19 virus.
 - b. That the Governor of the State of Indiana has declared an emergency due to the COVID-19.
 - c. That the World Health Organization declared the COVID-19 virus a pandemic.
 - d. The City of Union City, in response to the COVID-19 pandemic, has implemented a city-wide access plan, suspending all public non-emergency access to all public facilities, including the Union City Courthouse.
 - e. That Linda D. Wilcox is the City Court Judge for Union City and shall be the presiding Judge for this emergency.
2. The Judge of the Union City City Court requests that the Supreme Court of Indiana declare that an emergency exists in the City of Union City, under the authority of Indiana Administrative Rule 17, and to make appropriate emergency orders for the City of Union City, directing and allowing the Judge and Court Clerk of the Union City City Court to alter, modify, or suspend necessary procedure as provided in the Emergency Plan submitted herewith, so as to appropriately address this emergency.

EMERGENCY PLAN

The Union City City Court submits the following as the Emergency Plan of the City of Union City:

1. The City of Union City has implemented a City-wide Access Plan that has suspended all non-emergency access to city owned property.
2. The Union City City Court will continue all civil pre-trial hearings and postpone all non-essential hearings.
3. The Union City City Court will continue or postpone all civil Bench Trials until such time as the health risk no longer exists.
4. The Union City City Court will exercise flexibility in granting continuances or extending deadlines.
5. The Union City City Court will provide the public with access to the Court and its staff through telephonic, regular mail, and email correspondence.
6. The Union City City Court will not remit payment for fines and judgments in person; the Union City City Court directs all payments of fines and judgments to be made electronically, by mail, or through the Courthouse drop box.
7. The Union City City Court will suspend issuing civil body attachments.
8. The Union City City Court will exercise flexibility in issuing any Failure to Appear/Failure to Pay suspensions of licenses.

The Union City City Court proposes that this plan remain in effect until the health risk no longer exists and the emergency declarations have been lifted. The Union City City Court will review this plan on May 1, 2020 and make adjustments or modifications as deemed appropriate and petition the Supreme Court of Indiana accordingly.

Respectfully submitted,

Honorable Linda D. Wilcox
Presiding Judge