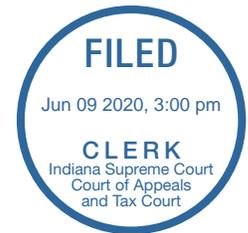


In the Indiana Supreme Court

In the Matter of Matter of the Petition of
the Jennings County Courts for
Administrative Rule 17 Emergency Relief.

Supreme Court Case No.
20S-CB-186



Order Approving Expansion of Operations Plan

By orders issued April 24 and May 13, 2020, this Court ordered trial courts statewide to submit plans for gradually resuming normal operations under limitations appropriate to the 2019 novel coronavirus (COVID-19) public health emergency. Pursuant to that order, the petitioning court(s) filed an amended expansion of operations plan (“Plan”) on June 9, 2020.

The Court finds that the Plan was made in coordination with appropriate local authorities and local justice system partners to account for local health conditions, facility readiness, and litigants’ needs; and that the Plan makes reasonable provisions for resuming normal staffing, providing public access to non-confidential proceedings, and resuming jury trials. A copy of the Plan is attached to this order and incorporated by reference.

Being duly advised, and pursuant to Indiana Administrative Rule 17 and this Court’s inherent authority to supervise the administration of all courts of this State, the Court ORDERS as follows:

1. All emergency relief previously granted to the petitioning court(s) under Administrative Rule 17 is deemed to expire as of the effective date of this order, except as provided by this Court’s “Order Extending Trial Courts’ Emergency Tolling Authority and Setting Expiration of Other Emergency Orders” issued May 29, 2020 in Case No. 20S-CB-123. However, this Court’s May 13, 2020 “Emergency Order Permitting Expanded Remote Hearings” and paragraph 3 of its May 13 “Order Extending Time for Expanding Trial Court Operations” in Case No. 20S-CB-123 (prohibiting jury trials before July 1 without prior approval of this Court) remain in full force and effect.
2. The Plan is approved, and the petitioning court(s) shall comply with its terms through its stated duration, subject to further order of this Court.

Done at Indianapolis, Indiana, on 6/9/2020, effective **May 8, 2020**.

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Steve David".

Steve David
Acting Chief Justice of Indiana

20S-CB-186

STATE OF INDIANA) IN THE JENNINGS CIRCUIT COURT
) AND
) IN THE JENNINGS SUPERIOR COURT
) SS:
 COUNTY OF JENNINGS) CAUSE NO. 40C01-2005-CB-32

FILED

IN THE MATTER OF THE
COVID 19 TRANSITION PLAN

MAY 08 2020

COVID 19 TRANSITION PLAN

Alex D. Thomas
 CLERK OF JENNINGS COURTS

Pursuant to an Order of the Indiana Supreme Court dated April 24, 2020, the Judges of the Jennings Circuit Court and the Jennings Superior Court submit this Transition Plan:

1. Operations

Insofar as possible, normal court operations will resume on May 18, 2020 at 12:01 a.m. subject to the following:

A. Door Security Officer

The existing Jennings County Sheriff's Department security officer shall be at the only public entry to the Jennings County Courthouse (the front door) from 8:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m., Monday through Friday, to vet all persons entering the Jennings County Courthouse. If, in the officer's opinion, a person asking to enter is a threat to public health or safety, the Officer shall refuse entry and contact either judge at once for further guidance.

B. Masks

All persons entering the Jennings County Courthouse beginning May 18, 2020, must wear a mask at all times unless testifying or when doing so may impede confidentiality or disrupt close, personal conference with counsel or clear voice recording.

C. Hygiene

Hand sanitizer shall be available at the front door for public use and in the courtrooms for public use. The building custodian shall thoroughly clean the building each evening, including insuring an ample supply of hand sanitizer, soap, and disposable towels.

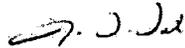
D. Social Distancing

All persons, whether seated in the courtroom, or in the adjacent hallway, shall practice "social distancing" of six (6) feet or more.

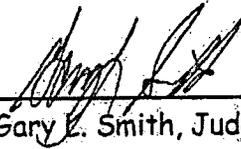
E. Judicial Discretion

It shall be the sole discretion of the Judge of each Court whether to admit or deny entry to the Jennings County Courthouse or ask someone to leave, if the Judge decides, the person is refusing to follow these rules or a threat to public health or safety.

So Ordered May 8, 2020



Jon W. Webster, Judge
Jennings Circuit Court



Gary L. Smith, Judge
Jennings Superior Court