

# In the Indiana Supreme Court



In the Matter of the Petition of the  
Switzerland Circuit Court for  
Administrative Rule 17 Emergency Relief.

Supreme Court Case No.  
20S-CB-00118

## Order

The Switzerland Circuit Court has petitioned this Court for emergency relief pursuant to Indiana Administrative Rule 17. The petition states that a statewide emergency has been declared relating to the 2019 novel coronavirus (COVID-19); that all Switzerland County schools are closed as a result; that a confirmed case of COVID-19 has been discovered in nearby Floyd County; and that individuals required to appear regularly in Switzerland County courts are likely at heightened risk to be carriers of the virus from the Greater Louisville/Southern Indiana metropolitan area. It appears from the petition that this emergency will inhibit litigants' and courts' ability to comply with statutory deadlines and rules of procedure. The Honorable Gregory W. Coy will be the presiding Judge for this emergency.

The Court finds that good cause exists for granting emergency relief.

Being duly advised, the Court GRANTS the petition, DECLARES pursuant to Indiana Administrative Rule 17 that an emergency exists in Switzerland County, and APPROVES the plan as submitted. The Court further ORDERS as follows to ensure the orderly and fair administration of justice during this emergency:

1. The Court authorizes the tolling, from the date of this order **through April 10, 2020**, of all laws, rules, and procedures setting time limits for speedy trials in criminal and juvenile proceedings, public health, mental health, and appellate matters; all judgments, support, and other orders; and in all other civil and criminal matters before the Switzerland Circuit Court. Further, no interest shall be due or charged during this tolled period.
2. Effective the date of this order and **through April 10, 2020**, this Court authorizes immediate suspension of all civil proceedings, except for protective orders in domestic violence cases and emergency Child in Need of Services (CHINS) proceedings.
3. Effective the date of this order and **through April 10, 2020**, this Court authorizes immediate suspension of all criminal proceedings, except for emergency motions and petitions, bond hearings, initial hearings, emergency hearings, and any criminal hearing or proceeding necessary to protect a defendant's right to a speedy trial.

4. The Switzerland Circuit Court shall file a status update **no later than April 9, 2020** to inform this Court of whether there is an ongoing need for emergency relief.

Done at Indianapolis, Indiana, on 3/16/2020.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Loretta H. Rush", written over a horizontal line.

Loretta H. Rush  
Chief Justice of Indiana