Davidson County Juvenile Court COVID-19 Policy

- 1) The court will continue to operate detention and preliminary hearing dockets. The preliminary hearing docket will occur each Monday through Friday at 9:00 a.m. The detention docket will occur each Monday-Friday at 1:00 p.m. All emergency matters shall be consolidated onto those dockets.
- 2) The child support contempt dockets in which a respondent is incarcerated shall continue to occur each Tuesday at 8:30 a.m. In addition, any motions for release filed by incarcerated respondents relating to child support shall be consolidated onto those Tuesday dockets.
- 3) Any delinquency case that involves a juvenile currently in detention remains on as presently scheduled. Trials for those juveniles in detention will occur as scheduled. Any youths currently in detention and on for settlement will be handled by their counsel and the assistant DA in conjunction with the individual magistrate assigned to the case.
- 4) The clerk's office will remain open for the filing of petitions. They will work with the court to determine when to schedule non-emergency petitions.
- 5) All other trials, appearances, settlement conferences and reviews will be continued. The court will notify counsel as to when those cases will be reset for status.

While the present TN Supreme Court order is in effect until April 30th, we have extended the plan to reopen dockets as usual to Monday, May 11th.

Should have any questions, please contact the Juvenile Court Clerk at 615-862-7980.

Additional Information:

Juvenile Court has not issued a standing order related to parenting plans. All of the provisions in the parenting plans remain in place. If anyone needs to file a motion to review visitation in light of the current situation in a particular case, please feel free to do so. If the parenting plan in question arose out of a Neglect/Dependency case, the motion to review should be set on a 9:00 a.m. Preliminary Hearing docket. The 9:00 a.m. Preliminary Hearing dockets are held daily. If the parenting plan arose out of a Parentage case, it should be set on an 8:30 a.m. Parentage docket. The 8:30 a.m. Parentage dockets are only held on Tuesdays. The motion should be set approximately a week out from the date of filing to allow time for the parties to be served with the court date. The motion will be heard by conference call, so please include the telephone numbers of all attorneys and parties on the motion.

As to the availability of video conferencing at Juvenile Court, we are currently working to set up WebEx services to allow for video conferencing. For now only phone conferencing is available.

We also encourage parents to contact our Parental Assistance Court (PAC) team members to discuss parenting plan issues. All of our PAC team members are certified Rule 31 mediators and are skilled at helping parents navigate difficulties related to coparenting. They can reach a PAC team member by calling 615-862-8000 and asking for a PAC or just explaining that they need help with a parenting plan.