

**IN THE TWENTY-THIRD JUDICIAL DISTRICT CIRCUIT, CHANCERY,
GENERAL SESSIONS, JUVENILE AND MUNICIPAL COURTS**

**AT CHEATHAM, DICKSON, HOUSTON, HUMPHREYS
AND STEWART COUNTIES**

IN RE:

**COVID-19 PANDEMIC IN-PERSON
COURT SUSPENSION**



**DOCKET: REFERENCING
TENN. SUP. CT. ORDER
NO. ADM2020-00428**

ORDER

On April 24, 2020 the Tennessee Supreme Court directed the presiding judge of each district to coordinate with all general sessions, juvenile and municipal court judges to formulate a comprehensive written plan to gradually conduct in-person proceedings. The plans were to contain guidelines which would allow courts to proceed with in-person hearings while continuing to minimize the risk of spreading the COVID-19 virus. Following are the guidelines that will be used in order to comply with said order.

CHEATHAM COUNTY

GENERAL GUIDELINES:

The Cheatham County Courthouse was re-opened to the public on May 1, 2020. There is one point of entry and exit. This point is monitored by the Cheatham County

Sheriff's Department. All persons with business before any of the courts will be required to check in at this entry point. Clerks will be stationed along with security personnel to check people in. After parties have checked in, they may leave a telephone number and will be summoned back to the entry point when their case is called. No more than ten people will be allowed in to the courtrooms. This number does not include the judge, court personnel and court security. They will be given a check-in card to take to the courtroom. Once their case is completed, they will be given a disposition card and directed back to the exit point. These cards will be given to the security personnel so that they will be aware of how many people are in the courtroom. Placards have been placed throughout the courthouse designating seating which will comply with the recommended social distancing guidelines. Only parties, witnesses and attorneys will be allowed into the courtroom. Signs have been placed on the individual seats denoting where individuals must sit. Clerk's offices are open and providing services while maintaining social distancing. Cleaning supplies, masks, gloves and hand sanitizers have been provided to them by the county. Cleaning supplies are available through the county to be used in the sanitization of the courtrooms and workplaces.

CIRCUIT CRIMINAL:

This court will follow the general guidelines denoted above. In dealing with incarcerated defendants, available technology such as Zoom or Skype will continue to be utilized. In the event that an inmate needs to be brought into the courtroom, that inmate may be brought directly into the courtroom via a door which connects the jail to the courtroom. No more than ten people will be allowed in to the courtrooms. This

number does not include the judge, court personnel and court security. No other people will be present except for attorneys court personnel and court security. The Public Defender's office has "Listen Talk" equipment which allows them to talk to their clients while maintaining the required social distancing. They will be allowed to use this equipment to confer with their clients. Criminal dockets will continue for arraignment and plea purposes. The setting of motion hearings will be set only with approval of the judge presiding over the docket. Attorneys will be instructed to negotiate their cases before they come to court. No time will be given to them to negotiate with the district attorney after the case is called.

No jury trials will be held until further orders of the Supreme Court.

Grand Jury will be held in the 911 Center meeting room which is large enough for all persons to maintain social distancing. The grand jurors, as well as witnesses, will check in at the entry point and taken to the meeting room. Everyone will be provided masks and sanitizer if needed.

CHANCERY AND CIRCUIT CIVIL:

These courts will observe the general guidelines as denoted above. Additionally, depending on the size of the docket, cases may be staggered so that parties may have a specific appearance time. Child Support dockets will adhere to the above state guidelines. The Clerk's office will have personnel stationed at the security entry point to check people in. They will use the same system of check-in as outlined above. The use of available technology, such as Zoom and Skype, to conduct hearings will continue to be utilized in order to continue to minimize in-person contact. The Clerk's office will

coordinate with the attorneys as to the estimated time needed for each case and the number of witnesses that may be called on each case. The clerk will then consult with the Judge presiding over the docket to determine whether staggered court times need to be assigned. . No more than ten people will be allowed in to the courtrooms. This number does not include the judge, court personnel and court security.

GENERAL SESSIONS AND JUVENILE:

These courts will follow the same general guidelines as denoted above. No more than ten people will be allowed in to the courtrooms. This number does not include the judge, court personnel and court security.

ASHLAND CITY MUNICIPAL COURT:

There will be one entry point monitored by an Ashland City Police Officer and a clerk. All court staff will wear masks and hand sanitizer will be made available to all who require it. No more than ten defendants will be allowed into the courtroom. The court will increase the number of docket days in order to decrease the number of people on individual dockets. The judge will hear cases through use of a live video stream while sitting in another room. The podium and pens will be sanitized after each case. Anyone who appears at the secure entry point who appears to have any symptoms of COVID-19 will have their case rescheduled. No more than ten people will be allowed in to the courtrooms. This number does not include the judge, court personnel and court security.

PLEASANT VIEW MUNICIPAL COURT:

All cases have been continued to June 4, 2020. There will be one entry point monitored by the Pleasant View Police Department. When court resumes, there will be a limitation on the number of individuals allowed into the courtroom in order to adhere to the social distancing protocol. No more than ten defendants will be allowed in at a time. This number does not include the judge, court personnel and court security. Individuals will wait in their vehicles until their case is called if there is not sufficient room in the courtroom for people to maintain proper social distancing.

KINGSTON SPRINGS MUNICIPAL COURT:

All cases have been continued to June 9, 2020. There will be one entry point monitored by the Kingston Springs Police Department. Only ten defendants will be allowed into the courtroom in order to adhere to the social distancing protocol. This number does not include the judge, court personnel and court security. Individuals will wait in their vehicles until their case is called.

DICKSON COUNTY

GENERAL GUIDELINES:

The Dickson County Courthouse is open to the public. There is one entry point into the courthouse. Signs have been posted directing people to the different offices.

Markers have been placed indicating where people are to stand in order to conform to the social distancing protocol. Hand sanitizer is located for the general public throughout the courthouse. All offices are directed to sanitize all surfaces every day at 10:00 a.m. and 2:00 p.m. Individuals arriving for court will be directed to a sign-in desk where they will be signed in by a clerk. No more than ten people will be allowed into the courtroom. This number does not include the judge, court personnel and court security. Only parties, witnesses and attorneys will be allowed into the courtroom or the designated waiting areas. The designated waiting areas will be marked and individuals will be advised to maintain proper social distancing. If the need arises, individuals will be allowed to wait in their cars if they provide a cellphone number to the clerk. Clerk's offices are open and providing services while maintaining social distancing. Cleaning supplies, masks, gloves and hand sanitizers have been provided to them by the county. Cleaning supplies are available through the county to be used in the sanitization of the courtrooms and workplaces.

CIRCUIT CRIMINAL:

This Court will observe the general guidelines as denoted above.

In dealing with incarcerated defendants available technology such as Zoom or Skype will continue to be utilized. In the event that an inmate needs to be brought into the courtroom, then that inmate will be transported individually. There will be no group transports. No other people will be present except for attorneys, court personnel and court security. The Public Defender's office has "Listen Talk" equipment which allows them to talk to their clients while maintaining the required social distancing. They will be

allowed to use this equipment to confer with their clients. Criminal dockets will continue for arraignment and plea purposes. The setting of motion hearings will be set only with approval of the judge presiding over the docket. Attorneys will be instructed to negotiate their cases before they come to court. No time will be given to them to negotiate with the district attorney after the case is called. No more than ten people will be allowed into the courtroom. This number does not include the judge, court personnel and court security.

No jury trials will be held until further orders of the Supreme Court.

Grand Jury will be held in the County Commissioner's courtroom which is large enough for all persons to maintain social distancing. The grand jurors, as well as witnesses, will check in at the entry point and be taken to the County Commissioner's courtroom. Witnesses will be provided with a designated waiting area and marked seating. Everyone will be provided with sanitizer if needed.

CHANCERY AND CIRCUIT CIVIL:

These courts will observe the general guidelines as denoted above. Additionally, depending on the size of the docket, cases may be staggered so that parties may have a specific appearance time. Child Support dockets will adhere to the above stated guidelines. The Clerk's office will have personnel stationed at a sign-in desk to check people in. They will use the same system of check-in as outlined above. The use of available technology, such as Zoom and Skype, to conduct hearings will continue to be utilized in order to continue to minimize in-person contact. The Clerk's office will coordinate with the attorneys as to the estimated time needed for each case and the

number of witnesses that may be called on each case. The clerk will then consult with the Judge presiding over the docket to determine whether staggered court times need to be assigned. No more than ten people will be allowed into the courtroom. This number does not include the judge, court personnel and court security.

GENERAL SESSIONS:

This court is located across the street from the Dickson County Courthouse. There will be one entry point which will be manned by the Dickson County Sheriff's Office. Questions relating to symptoms of COVID-19 will be asked of those individuals seeking entry. Anyone having any of the symptoms will have their case rescheduled. All persons will be encouraged to wear masks. Ten people will be allowed in at one time. This number does not include the judge, court personnel and court security. They will be directed to seats which will allow them to be seated at an appropriate distance from others. Individuals arriving for court will be given a number. The first ten will be allowed in and all others will be allowed to wait in their vehicles until the first group of cases has been completed. Jail dockets will be conducted via Zoom. Attorneys will be encouraged to use Zoom video conferences to dispose of their cases. Order of Protection cases will continue to be heard. All other civil cases will be reset.

JUVENILE:

This court is not located in the Dickson County Courthouse. There will be one entry point staffed by the Dickson County Sheriff's office and court personnel. Each person entering the building will be asked health screening questions as it relates to

COVID-19 virus. Cases will be staggered and all parties will be given a designated court time. Individuals will be instructed to wait in their vehicles until their designated court time. No more than ten people will be allowed into the courtroom. This number does not include the judge, court personnel and court security. No more than ten people will be allowed into the courtroom. This number does not include the judge, court personnel and court security. Only parties, witnesses and attorneys will be allowed in the courtroom. After each case has been completed, counsel tables and chairs, witness chair and podium will be sanitized. No more than ten people, excluding judge, court personnel and court security, will be allowed into the courtroom.

DICKSON CITY MUNICIPAL COURT:

The Court has suspended all in-person proceedings unless a hearing is requested. In the event a hearing is needed, it will be conducted in the lobby of the Clerk's office with the court personnel positioned behind the Clerk's window. The Municipal Clerk's office will remain open but will limit in-person contact. Notices will be placed at the entrance of the building with instructions as how to pay citations on-line. Dockets listing all cases and their times will also be posted at this location. Cases will be heard via video conference or telephone conference. Each defendant will remain in their vehicle until called for the purpose of video conference or telephone conference. Any party entering the building will be asked health screening questions regarding COVID-19. . No more than ten people, excluding judge, court personnel and court security, will be allowed into the courtroom.

WHITE BLUFF MUNICIPAL COURT:

Police Officers will be given staggered court times to lessen the number of people in the courtroom. The Court will utilize Skype to conduct jail arraignments. Attorneys are instructed to contact the court the day prior to having a hearing so that a designated time for said hearing can be set. Witnesses will be given instructions as to when to report for hearings. Witnesses will check in upon their arrival to court and then wait in their vehicles until summoned. Inmates will be transported for preliminary and bond hearings and bench trials. Pleas, requests for continuances and motions will be conducted via video conference. No more than ten people, excluding judge, court personnel and court security, will be allowed into the courtroom.

HOUSTON COUNTY

GENERAL GUIDELINES:

The Houston County Courthouse is open to the public with some limitations. Access to the courthouse can only be had through the front entry door. Individuals must call the office to which they need access and an employee of that office will escort the individual in and out. Hand sanitizer will be made available to the general public. Individuals arriving for court will be directed to a sign-in desk where they will be signed in by a clerk. No more than ten people will be allowed into the courtroom. This does not include judge, court personnel and court security. Only parties, witnesses and attorneys will be allowed into the courtroom or the designated waiting areas. Due to the limited space in the courthouse, individuals will wait in their vehicle until their case is called.

Both the Circuit and Chancery Court Clerk's office are open to the public. All staff have been provided masks and hand sanitizer and are aware of the social distancing guidelines. All offices maintain cleaning supplies and are responsible for sanitizing their individual areas. After each case is heard, counsel table and chairs as well as the podium will be sanitized by the bailiff or the clerk. Hand sanitizer will be made available at the entry into the courtroom.

CIRCUIT CRIMINAL:

This Court will observe the general guidelines as denoted above.

In dealing with incarcerated defendants available technology such as Zoom or Skype will continue to be utilized. In the event that an inmate needs to be brought into the courtroom, then that inmate will be transported individually. There will be no group transports. No more than ten people will be allowed into the courtroom. This does not include judge, court personnel and court security. No other people will be present except for attorneys and court personnel. This court will observe the general guidelines as denoted above. The Public Defender's office has "Listen Talk" equipment which allows them to talk to their clients while maintaining the required social distancing. They will be allowed to use this equipment to confer with their clients. Criminal dockets will continue for arraignment and plea purposes. The setting of motion hearings will be set only with approval of the judge presiding over the docket. Attorneys will be instructed to negotiate their cases before they come to court. No time will be given to them to negotiate with the district attorney after the case is called.

No jury trials will be held until further orders of the Supreme Court.

Grand Jury will be held in the courtroom which is large enough for all persons to maintain social distancing. The grand jurors, as well as witnesses, will check in at the entry point and be taken to the courtroom. Witnesses will be provided with a designated waiting area and marked seating. Everyone will be provided with sanitizer if needed.

CHANCERY AND CIRCUIT CIVIL:

These courts will observe the general guidelines as denoted above. Additionally, depending on the size of the docket, cases may be staggered so that parties may have a specific appearance time. No more than ten people will be allowed into the courtroom. This does not include judge, court personnel and court security. Child Support dockets will adhere to the above stated guidelines. The Clerk's office will have personnel stationed at a sign-in desk to check people in. They will use the same system of check-in as outlined above. The use of available technology, such as Zoom and Skype, to conduct hearings will continue to be utilized in order to continue to minimize in-person contact. The Clerk's office will coordinate with the attorneys as to the estimated time needed for each case and the number of witnesses that may be called on each case. The clerk will then consult with the Judge presiding over the docket to determine whether staggered court times need to be assigned.

GENERAL SESSIONS:

The Jail docket will continue to be heard via video. Bond related matters and pleas for incarcerated individuals will be heard in-person. There will be no group transports of inmates. Inmates will be transported individually. Only the parties,

attorneys and court personnel will be allowed in the courtroom. When a case is completed all participants will leave separately as directed by the Bailiff. All participants will be required to wear a mask provided by the Bailiff or return to their automobile for further instructions. Parties on the Civil Docket will be instructed to call the clerk's office before court to inform the clerk of their telephone number. They will be advised to wait in their vehicle until their case is called. The use of Zoom will be utilized in order to continue to minimize in-person contact. No more than ten people, excluding the judge, court personnel and court security, will be allowed in the courtroom.

JUVENILE COURT:

This court will adhere to general guidelines outlined above. All cases will be called individually. Once the case is completed all participants will leave separately as directed by the bailiff. Parties will be required to wear face masks and hand sanitizer will be provided. The DCS attorney will contact the Judge's administrative assistant to make arrangements for signing of Petitions of Removal. Those petitions will be addressed using facsimile or other audio/video technology. No more than ten people, excluding the judge, court personnel and court security, will be allowed in the courtroom.

ERIN MUNICIPAL COURT:

The City will provide a hand held digital thermometer to take the temperature of all individuals entering the building. Hand sanitizer will also be made available. The docket will be kept to a minimum so as to follow the appropriate social distancing guidelines. Persons with tickets regarding registration, light law, municipal ordinance will

be allowed to mail in proof of the correction of the violation. All persons will be advised to call the clerk's office in advance of their court date to ascertain if they need to appear in person. No more than ten people, excluding the judge, court personnel and court security will be allowed in the courtroom.

HUMPHREYS COUNTY

GENERAL GUIDELINES:

The Humphreys County Courthouse is open to the public. There is a single entry and exit point which will be staffed by the Humphreys County Sheriff's Office. Individuals arriving for court will sign in at this point and be given directions as to where to be seated. No more than ten individuals will be in the courtroom. There will be sufficient seating for additional ten individuals in a marked waiting area with seating that will comply with the social distancing protocol. The remaining individuals will provide their telephone number to the personnel at the sign-in desk and instructed to wait in their vehicles until summoned. Chairs and tables will be sanitized after the exit of each group. Only parties, witnesses and attorneys, along with the required court staff, will be in the courtroom. No more than ten people, excluding the judge, court personnel and court security will be allowed in the courtroom.

CIRCUIT CRIMINAL:

This court will follow the general guidelines as denoted above. In dealing with incarcerated defendants available technology such as Zoom or Skype will continue to be utilized. In the event that an inmate needs to be brought into the courtroom, then that inmate will be transported individually. There will be no group transports. No other people will be present except for attorneys and court personnel. The Public Defender's office has "Listen Talk" equipment which allows them to talk to their clients while maintaining the required social distancing. They will be allowed to use this equipment to confer with their clients. Criminal dockets will continue for arraignment and plea purposes. The setting of motion hearings will be set only with approval of the judge presiding over the docket. Attorneys will be instructed to negotiate their cases before they come to court. No time will be given to them to negotiate with the district attorney after the case is called. No more than ten people, excluding the judge, court personnel and court security will be allowed in the courtroom.

No jury trials will be held until further orders of the Supreme Court.

Grand Jury will be held in the courtroom which is large enough for all persons to maintain social distancing. The grand jurors, as well as witnesses, will check in at the entry point and be taken to the courtroom. Witnesses will be provided with a designated waiting area and marked seating. Everyone will be provided with sanitizer if needed.

CHANCERY AND CIRCUIT CIVIL:

These courts will observe the general guidelines as denoted above. Additionally, depending on the size of the docket, cases may be staggered so that parties may have

a specific appearance time. Child Support dockets will adhere to the above stated guidelines. The Clerk's office will have personnel stationed at a sign-in desk to check people in. They will use the same system of check-in as outlined above. The use of available technology, such as Zoom and Skype, to conduct hearings will continue to be utilized in order to continue to minimize in-person contact. The Clerk's office will coordinate with the attorneys as to the estimated time needed for each case and the number of witnesses that may be called on each case. The clerk will then consult with the Judge presiding over the docket to determine whether staggered court times need to be assigned. Clerk's offices are open and providing services while maintaining social distancing. Cleaning supplies, masks, gloves and hand sanitizers have been provided to them by the county. Cleaning supplies are available through the county to be used in the sanitization of the courtrooms and workplaces. No more than ten people, excluding the judge, court personnel and court security will be allowed in the courtroom.

HUMPHREYS COUNTY GENERAL SESSIONS:

This court will observe the general guidelines as denoted above. Bailiffs will check the temperature of everyone entering the courtroom. Dockets will be divided in order to lessen the number of individuals in the courthouse. VOP dockets will be reset until July 3, 2020 to assist in keeping the jail population number at a minimum. No Failure to Appear warrants will be issued until after July 3, 2020. All defendants and other parties will remain behind counsel table when addressing the court. The Public Defender will use the "Listen Talk" technology to communicate with their clients. No

more than ten people, excluding the judge, court personnel and court security will be allowed in the courtroom.

HUMPHREYS COUNTY JUVENILE COURT:

This court will observe the general guidelines as denoted above. All pending juvenile cases have been rescheduled to June, 2020. The clerk will notify all parties of the new court dates. Preliminary inquiries by the Youth Service Office will be suspended through May 31, 2020. Any case involving constitutional issues or an emergency or special needs case will be scheduled for hearing by motion and order. Probate matters will be scheduled by motion and order. The use of available technology can be used to conduct hearings. In person hearings will be held at a minimum. Only court personnel, security, attorneys and litigants will be allowed in the courtroom and no more than ten people at a time will be permitted. This number does not include the judge, court personnel and court security will be allowed in the courtroom. Public Defender's Office will be permitted to use the "Listen Talk" equipment to communicate with their clients, The Bailiff will check the temperature of all individuals entering the courtroom. All tables and seats will be sanitized after each case.

MCEWEN MUNICIPAL COURT:

There will be a single entry point which will be manned by the McEwen Police Department. Individuals will sign in at this point where they will be given instructions. The first ten individuals to sign in will be placed in the courtroom. They will be seated according to the social distancing guidelines. The next ten individuals will be placed in a

designated waiting area in seats that are placed six feet apart from the other. All other individuals will leave their telephone number with the sign in desk and return to their vehicles. As each group leaves, another group will be called in. Hand sanitizer will be made available to all individuals. Court personnel will be provided with masks. All areas will be sanitized as individuals leave. After completion of the non-incarcerated defendants is completed the Jail docket will be held via Zoom. No more than ten people, excluding the judge, court personnel and court security will be allowed in the courtroom.

NEW JOHNSONVILLE MUNICIPAL COURT:

There will be a single entry point which will be monitored by the New Johnsonville Police Department. The first ten individuals who arrive will be placed in the courtroom with the next group of ten individuals being placed in the hallway. All individuals will be required to sit six feet apart. The remaining individuals will be directed back to their vehicles until their case is called. Officers will check the temperature of each individual who enters the courtroom. Table and chairs will be sanitized after each case. All individuals will be required to wear face masks which will be provided to them if needed. The Jail docket will be heard via Zoom. No more than ten people, excluding the judge, court personnel and court security will be allowed in the courtroom.

STEWART COUNTY

GENERAL GUIDELINES:

The Stewart County Courthouse is open to the public. However, the courthouse will be closed to the general public on court days. There is one entry and exit point which is manned by the Stewart County Sheriff's Office. Everyone gaining entry will sign in at this point and will sign out upon exiting. The courthouse will receive a "deep clean" on Thursdays and after Tuesday General Sessions docket. A county emergency management services officer will be stationed at the entry point to take the temperature of each individual who is scheduled for court. Those individuals with a temperature or exhibiting symptoms of COVID-19 will be denied access and their cases will be continued. Hand sanitizer will be set up at accessible points for the public to use. No more than ten people, excluding the judge, court personnel and court security will be allowed in the courtroom.

CIRCUIT CRIMINAL:

This court will follow the general guidelines as denoted above. In dealing with incarcerated defendants available technology such as Zoom or Skype will continue to be utilized. In the event that an inmate needs to be brought into the courtroom, then that inmate will be transported individually. There will be no group transports. No other people will be present except for attorneys and court personnel. The Public Defender's office has "Listen Talk" equipment which allows them to talk to their clients while maintaining the required social distancing. They will be allowed to use this equipment

to confer with their clients. Criminal dockets will continue for arraignment and plea purposes. The setting of motion hearings will be set only with approval of the judge presiding over the docket. Attorneys will be instructed to negotiate their cases before they come to court. No time will be given to them to negotiate with the district attorney after the case is called. Groups of ten defendants will be allowed in the courtroom at one time. All others will wait in their vehicles and will be summoned via their telephone. Tables and chairs used by individuals will be sanitized after each case. No more than ten people, excluding the judge, court personnel and court security will be allowed in the courtroom.

No jury trials will be held until further orders of the Supreme Court.

Grand Jury will be held in the courtroom which is large enough for all persons to maintain social distancing. The grand jurors, as well as witnesses, will check in at the entry point and be taken to the courtroom. Witnesses will be provided with a designated waiting area and marked seating. Everyone will be provided with sanitizer if needed.

CHANCERY AND CIRCUIT CIVIL:

These courts will observe the general guidelines as denoted above. Additionally, depending on the size of the docket, cases may be staggered so that parties may have a specific appearance time. Child Support dockets will adhere to the above stated guidelines. The Clerk's office will have personnel stationed at a sign-in desk to check people in. They will use the same system of check-in as outlined above. The use of available technology, such as Zoom and Skype, to conduct hearings will continue to be utilized in order to continue to minimize in-person contact. The Clerk's office will

coordinate with the attorneys as to the estimated time needed for each case and the number of witnesses that may be called on each case. The clerk will then consult with the Judge presiding over the docket to determine whether staggered court times need to be assigned. Clerk's offices are open and providing services while maintaining social distancing. Cleaning supplies, masks, gloves and hand sanitizers have been provided to them by the county. Cleaning supplies are available through the county to be used in the sanitization of the courtrooms and workplaces. No more than ten people, excluding the judge, court personnel and court security will be allowed in the courtroom.

GENERAL SESSIONS COURT:

This court will observe the general guidelines as denoted above. Criminal cases will be staggered with the Court hearing the cases of individual officers. Cases involving private litigants will be set at a different time to minimize the number of individuals in the courtroom. Civil dockets shall be arranged so that creditor's attorneys may participate via Zoom. The number of litigants in the courtroom will be limited to ten. There is sufficient seating in the courtroom for each individual to adhere to the social distancing guidelines. The podium for public use will be stationed outside the bar area with a second podium set up within the bar area for attorney use. Court staff will be provided with masks and gloves. Video technology will be utilized whenever possible. No more than ten people, excluding the judge, court personnel and court security will be allowed in the courtroom.

JUVENILE COURT:

There is one entry and exit point which is manned by the Stewart County Sheriff's Office. Everyone gaining entry will sign in at this point and will sign out upon exiting. . A county emergency management services officer will be stationed at the entry point to take the temperature of each individual who is scheduled for court. Those individuals with a temperature or exhibiting symptoms of COVID-19 will be denied access and their cases will be continued. Cases will be heard individually and all other parties will be directed to designated seating area or their vehicles where they will be summoned via their telephone. Seating will comply with the social distancing protocol. Dockets will be limited to one adjudication per morning and one per afternoon. Video technology will be utilized for DCS and Safe Baby Court reviews when possible. Informal adjustments will be liberally used. Tables and chairs will be sanitized after each case. No more than ten people, excluding the judge, court personnel and court security will be allowed in the courtroom.

DOVER MUNICIPAL COURT:

There will be one entry and exit point which will be monitored by the Dover Police Department. Individuals will be asked questions as to possible COVID-19 symptoms prior to entry. EMS personnel will be available to assess any individual with possible symptoms. The number of individuals allowed into the courtroom will be limited so as to comply with the safe distancing guidelines. All other individuals will remain in their vehicle until their case is called. Court staff and officers will wear masks and gloves.

Hand sanitizer will be available for individuals. No more than ten people, excluding the judge, court personnel and court security will be allowed in the courtroom.

TWENTY-THIRD JUDICIAL DISTRICT RECOVERY COURTS

At this time all team reviews and participant reviews will continue to be held via Zoom.

It is therefore ORDERED and DECREED this the 11th day of May, 2020.



Suzanne M. Lockert-Mash
Presiding Circuit Court Judge
Circuit Court Judge, Div. III

CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

I hereby certify that I have served a correct and complete copy of the foregoing order to all court clerks of the 23rd Judicial District via email on this the 11th day of May, 2020.



Julie A. Hayes
Office of Circuit Court Judge Suzanne M. Lockert-Mash
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Ashland City, TN 37015