



~ JUDGE BRAD SMITH~

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## COVID – 19 SANDUSKY COUNTY JUVENILE AND PROBATE COURT

We have been keeping abreast of the situation by regularly participating in the various conference calls with the State of Ohio, Health Department, Department of Youth Services, etc., as well as reviewing updates from the Ohio Supreme Court, Judicial Associations, Court Administrators, and others.

*Based upon all the current directives and information provided, we feel it is essential to continue providing all necessary court services at this time, and will be maintaining the Court's regular docket and schedule.*

This situation will be continuously reviewed, as it remains very fluid. We will be internally discussing any new updates on a daily basis, and will share any changes as they are determined.

We have made screening and entry modifications to our Juvenile Detention Center protocols, but continue to accept and detain juveniles, as required. **EVERYONE** entering the facility will be required to complete the screening questionnaire and have their temperature taken (must be 100.4 or less). This includes all staff, county employees, attorneys and members of the public.

In the meantime, we do ask that you all consider the following:

- Do not come to the courthouse if you are feeling under the weather or have a temperature or other indicators of potential infection or illness.
- Contact your attorney if you have questions regarding hearings or if you are feeling ill.
- Pro Se Parties plan on attending all scheduled hearings unless you hear from the Court. If you are feeling ill file for a continuance with the Court.
- Call the Court or Deputy Clerks regarding basic inquiries, as opposed to coming to the courthouse in person.
- Follow all the common-sense recommendations that have been widely distributed via local and national media.

The various deadlines and time frames for the cases in our Courts have not been extended or modified in any manner as of yet, so we are hoping to keep the continuances to a minimum, so as not to create a backlog moving forward.

*Sincerely,  
Judge Brad Smith*

100 N. Park Ave., Fremont, OH 43420  
Telephone (419) 334-6200  
Fax (419) 334-6210