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APRIL DANIELS
CLERK OF COURTS
COMMON PLEAS COURT
ASHTABULA CO OH

IN THE COURT OF COMMON PLEAS
ASHTABULA COUNTY, OHIO

2022MD116

THE STATE OF OHIO

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ASHTABULA COUNTY

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JUDGMENT ENTRY
JUNE 9, 2022

IN RE: EMERGENCY TEMPORARY COURT ATTENDANCE POLICY AND ORDER

The Judges of the General Division of the Ashtabula County Court of Common Pleas make the following Findings of Fact:

1. This Court previously issued Judgment Entry 2020MD33 on March 17, 2020 to address the declared Judicial Emergency and Continuity of Operations related to the COVID-19 public health emergency. That Entry was amended and updated from time-to-time in light of updated and new information available from the Supreme Court of Ohio via federal, state, and local health officials.
2. As a result, most Child Support proceedings were conducted remotely by phone or videoconferencing.
3. While the Court continues to coordinate with these health officials, the public health emergency has abated and a return to in-person hearings is warranted.
4. This Judgment Entry shall supersede and replace all previous Orders related to Child Support proceedings.

In an effort to return to normal and essential Court functions and specifically to respect and protect the rights of individuals subject to the authority of the Court and based upon these Findings of Fact, **effective Monday, June 13, 2022, and until further notice**, the Court makes the following Orders:

1. All Child Support hearings shall return to in-person hearings and be conducted in Room 200 of the Ashtabula County Courthouse.
 - a. The Court recognizes that a transition period will exist as hearings are already scheduled to proceed via phone or videoconferencing in the coming months. Wherever practicable, these cases should be converted to in-person hearings but may proceed as scheduled.
 - b. Purge hearings may continue to proceed by phone if the Obligor is currently employed and paying as ordered.
2. Individual parties, attorneys for those having business before the Court, and representatives of the Ashtabula County Child Support Enforcement Agency and

Ashtabula County Public Defender's Office shall appear timely and in-person for hearings.

3. For good cause and upon timely written notice to the Court and all parties, an individual may request that an in-person hearing proceed remotely. Such requests are encouraged where any party, witness, or counsel has tested positive for COVID-19 or displays symptoms such as fever, sneezing, coughing, runny nose, sore throat, or difficulty breathing.

IT IS SO ORDERED.


THOMAS E. HARRIS, Administrative Judge


MARIANNE SEZON, Presiding Judge


DAVID A. SCHROEDER, Judge