

FILED

JUN 02 2021

JUDGE
ALBERT S. CAMPLESE

IN THE COURT OF COMMON PLEAS
ASHTABULA COUNTY, OHIO
PROBATE DIVISION

In Re:

ORDER DECLARING A JUDICIAL EMERGENCY
AND CONTINUITY OF OPERATIONS OF
THE COURT DUE TO COVID-19 PANDEMIC
[Sixth Addendum re: Court procedures and rules]

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JOURNAL ENTRY

The Court finds the Governor of Ohio, Michael DeWine, declared the removal of health orders for vaccinated individuals on May 14, 2020. The statement was issued by the Ohio Department of Health to confirm the remaining health orders to CDC guidance through June 2nd, 2021. The Court further finds the CDC highly suggests wearing a mask if you are not vaccinated.

The Court further finds due to the age and nature of the population served by the Ashtabula County Probate Court, it cannot yet safely restore normal court operations due to the public health concerns identified in its previously filed COVID-19 orders and directives.

All orders previously issued by this Court pursuant to authority conferred by this Court's *Order Declaring a Judicial Emergency and Continuity of Operations of the Court Due to COVID-19 Pandemic Judgment Entry*, filed March 17, 2020, shall extend and remain in effect unless otherwise modified herein.

The Ashtabula County Common Pleas Court, Probate Division [hereinafter "Probate Court"], provides the following information, and temporarily modifies routine Court procedures and Local Rules of Court, as follows:

1. The Probate Court remains **OPEN WITH RESTRICTIONS**. Any individual entering the Probate Court for any reason authorized by this Court's prior orders is recommended to wear a face-covering while conducting business in, on, and about the court premises. All persons shall allow his/her temperature to be taken, and shall accurately complete a Health/COVID-19 symptom questionnaire before entering the clerk's area or courtroom(s) of the Probate Court. Any person with business before the court must wait in the public hallway until a clerk and/or courtroom is

available. Access to a courtroom shall be restricted to parties, attorneys, and necessary witnesses. **No observers or guests shall be permitted access without express prior approval.** Payments to the court must be in exact cash, money order, or credit card. Probate Court employees are recommended to wear a face-covering during the duration of his/her interaction with any person conducting business with the court. All parties are required to maintain safe hygiene practices, with: regular hand washing, sanitizing, and social distancing.

a) Marriage Licenses

- i. "In-person" marriage license applications shall be submitted to the Court by appointment only. "In-person" appointments are available on Tuesdays, Thursdays, and Fridays, and may be arranged by contacting the Clerk's Office via telephone, email, and/or facsimile.
- ii. "Walk-in" applicants are required to furnish proof of identification at the time of appointment, and must complete the marriage license application in its entirety before a marriage license will be issued.
- iii. Applicants must abide by all public safety measures required in the office, and are encouraged to consider using the virtual application process rather than applying in person.

2. SUBJECT TO FURTHER MODIFICATION

This order shall be and hereby is, subject to further modification.

3. SERVICE OF JUDGMENT ENTRY

This "Temporary Order" is ordered to be served on the Supreme Court of Ohio, Ashtabula County Prosecutor's Office, the Ashtabula County, and Lake County Bar Associations, Ashtabula County Children's Services Board, Catholic Charities of Ashtabula County, and the media. A copy of this judgment shall be posted in the Probate Court Clerk's Office, and shall be published on the website of the Probate Court.

IT IS SO ORDERED.

A handwritten signature in blue ink, reading "Albert S. Camplese", is written over a horizontal line.

ALBERT S. CAMPLESE, Judge
Ashtabula County Court of Common Pleas
Probate Division