

IN THE COURT OF COMMON PLEAS OF RICHLAND COUNTY, OHIO  
JUVENILE DIVISION

IN RE: : Case No. 2020-MISC-00005

Entry & Order for Certain Restrictions  
to the Use, Occupancy, and Traffic  
for the Juvenile Court/Detention Facility  
located at 411 South Diamond Street,  
Mansfield, Ohio



SUPPLEMENTAL  
ADMINISTRATIVE ORDER

This Supplemental Administrative Order is issued in response to the COVID-19 health emergency, the Stay At Home Order issued on March 22, 2020, by the Director of the Ohio Department of Health, and the directives from the Chief Justice of the Ohio Supreme Court. This Judge has also consulted via phone with the Executive Director of the Ohio Judicial Conference, former Justice Paul Pfeifer. The following orders are intended to implement the directives of these individuals. The Court has been advised that certain time restrictions governing the completion of cases are likely to be temporarily tolled by the General Assembly or by a temporary change to court rules by the Ohio Supreme Court. This order supersedes the prior order issued March 18, 2020, only to the extent they conflict.

All pretrial conferences held after March 23, 2020, shall be by telephone. The pretrial conference shall be initiated by the judicial officer. All counsel shall arrange to have their client(s) in their presence as and if they deem the client's physical presence necessary or otherwise appropriate. If the client is not physically present for the pretrial, counsel shall ensure that the client is available to counsel by phone. All traffic, unruly, and truancy matters shall be continued to a later date to be determined. Unless otherwise approved by the Judge, all non-urgent trials shall be continued until a date to be determined. The Court will continue to hear and decide all civil protection order cases, shelter care hearings, and detention hearings at court with individuals present in the courtroom, subject to the above conditions.

A youth may be brought into detention from court or via law enforcement as a last resort upon a finding that emergency circumstances exist regarding: a risk the child may pose to him or herself or to the safety of other persons, or due to a serious, alleged or adjudicated delinquent offense (within the judge's discretion depending on the seriousness of the offense). Detention review hearings will not involve bringing a youth from detention into the courtroom; contact between counsel and a youth in detention may be arranged through detention staff so as to ensure confidentiality of communications within the attorney-client relation. Any arraignment/initial adjudicatory hearing upon the filing of a complaint shall be scheduled at a later date, unless the matter is identified as urgent. The prosecutor or Richland County Children Services shall advise the Court regarding whether a matter is of particular urgency that would justify scheduling an in-court hearing.

This order shall be served on the Richland County Prosecutor, Richland County Sheriff, Mansfield Police Department, Richland County Children Services, members of the bar who practice in this Court, and all court staff by e-mail.

IT IS SO ORDERED.



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W. Steve McKinley, Judge