

SANDRA KURT  
2020 MAR 23 PM 2:05

SUMMIT COUNTY  
STATE OF OHIO

**IN THE COURT OF COMMON PLEAS  
DOMESTIC RELATIONS DIVISION  
SUMMIT COUNTY, OHIO**

IN RE:  
**Temporary Order due to COVID-19  
Public Health Crisis**

) MISC. No. 411

) JUDGE JOHN P. QUINN  
) JUDGE KATARINA COOK

) JUDGMENT ORDER  
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The Judges of the Summit County Court of Common Pleas, Domestic Relations Division make the following Findings of Fact:


- 1) On March 9, 2020 Ohio Governor Mike DeWine issued Executive Order 2020-01D “Declaring a State of Emergency” in response to the growing COVID-19 public health crisis.
- 2) On March 11, 2020 the World Health Organization officially declared COVID-19 to be a global “pandemic” requiring “urgent and aggressive action” to control the spread of the virus.
- 3) The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention and other health authorities have advised people to take precautions to reduce the possibility of exposure to the COVID-19 virus.
- 4) Specifically the CDC is recommending that people attempt to keep physical distance between themselves and other people.
- 5) The CDC is also recommending employers attempt to minimize exposure between employees and the public and to consider public health and safety when scheduling group or public events.

Based upon these Findings, Summit County Domestic Relations Court has developed a continuum of flexible responses in case the public health crisis escalates. The continuum of responses is intended to protect public health, to maintain essential court functions, and to continue to protect the rights of all individuals subject to the authority of the Court.

THEREFORE, IT IS HEREBY ORDERED:

1. The Local Rules of the Summit County Court of Common Pleas, Domestic Relations Division may be temporarily adapted to allow Court flexibility, within Constitutional limits, in response to the public health emergency.
2. The Domestic Relations Division security policies may be temporarily amended or supplemented to protect public health while maintaining essential court functions.
3. The Domestic Relations Division Personnel Policies provisions may be temporarily adjusted to maintain essential court operations and functions.
4. The Domestic Relations Division authorizes the use of audiovisual devices and technologies for all actions and proceedings at the discretion of the presiding official.
5. The public health emergency may be considered to be a finding of good cause for continuances deemed necessary by assigned judges on a case-by-case basis.
6. The Court will have the lawful authority, within constitutional limits, to do and direct to be done all things necessary to ensure the orderly and efficient administration of justice for the duration of the declared public health emergency.
7. Current emergency policies and procedures will be posted on the court's web site – [www.drcourt.org/wp/covid19](http://www.drcourt.org/wp/covid19) . Those policies may be amended as needed based upon current circumstances. All parties should review these policies prior to coming to court.

IT IS SO ORDERED.

  
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JOHN P. QUINN  
ADMINISTRATIVE JUDGE

  
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JUDGE KATARINA COOK