

**COURT OF COMMON PLEAS OF MONROE COUNTY  
FORTY-THIRD JUDICIAL DISTRICT  
COMMONWEALTH OF PENNSYLVANIA  
CIVIL DIVISION**

<b>IN RE: 43<sup>rd</sup> JUDICIAL DISTRICT</b>	<b>:</b>	
<b>EMERGENCY ADMINISTRATIVE ORDER</b>	<b>:</b>	<b>No. 76 AD 2020</b>
<b>COVID-19</b>	<b>:</b>	
	<b>:</b>	
<b>EXTEND GENERAL CLOSURE TO</b>	<b>:</b>	<b>Supreme Court Docketing No.</b>
<b>MAY 31, 2020</b>	<b>:</b>	<b>38MM2020</b>

**EMERGENCY ADMINISTRATIVE ORDER**

**AND NOW**, this 22<sup>nd</sup> day of April, 2020, pursuant to this Court's Declaration of Judicial Emergency dated March 16, 2020 effective through and including April 30, 2020, and in accordance with the Pennsylvania Supreme Court's Declaration of Judicial Emergency and Supplemental Orders dated March 16, 2020, March 18, 2020, and April 1, 2020, at Nos. 531 and 532 J.A.D. ("Supreme Court Orders") that close all Pennsylvania Courts to the public generally through at least April 30, 2020, and this Court's Administrative Orders dated March 17, 2020, at No. 65 A.D. and March 19, 2020 at No. 67 A.D. ("Monroe Administrative Orders"), that limit access to judicial facilities in the 43<sup>rd</sup> Judicial District and limit proceedings to those listed as emergencies in said orders; after consideration of the recommendations and guidelines issued by the CDC, the Pennsylvania Department of Health, and numerous local and regional medical experts consulted by this Court; in furtherance of the mandate of Pennsylvania Rule of Judicial Administration 1952(B)(2) that the President Judge "take necessary action to provide for the . . . safety of court personnel, court users and the public . . ."; and following a careful balancing of the public's right of access to courts against health, safety and welfare concerns arising from the COVID-19 pandemic that necessitated the Emergency Orders, We hereby AUTHORIZE and ORDER the following:

1. This Court's Declaration of Judicial Emergency dated March 16, 2020 is EXTENDED to May 31, 2020.
2. All Administrative Orders concerning the COVID-19 pandemic subsequent to the initial Declaration of Emergency cited in paragraph 1 herein, closing the Courts to the public generally and limiting proceedings to those emergencies delineated in this Court's previous Administrative Orders and the Pennsylvania Supreme Court's Administrative Orders, remain in effect.
3. All Administrative Orders concerning the COVID-19 pandemic including and subsequent to this Court's initial Declaration of Judicial Emergency which affect the operations and procedures of the Court during this time remain in effect.
4. Any postponement caused by this Judicial Emergency shall be considered a Court postponement and shall constitute excludable time for purposes of the application of Pennsylvania Rule of Criminal Procedure 600 See *Commonwealth v. Bradford*, 46A.3d 693 (Pa. 2012) and *Commonwealth v. Mills*, 162 A. 3d 323 (Pa. 2017).
5. All Court employees and any other person entering any Court Facility shall wear a facial covering which covers the nose and mouth, excepting persons unable to wear same because of a medical condition and children under the age of two (2). Face coverings shall be worn at all times in all public spaces, including courtrooms, corridors, elevators, stairways, and entranceways, and all Court offices, except when an employee is at his or her own work station.
6. All persons in all Court Facilities shall maintain, at all times, the appropriate social distancing of a minimum of 6 feet of separation.

7. Any person who meets one or more of the below criteria is prohibited from entering the Court facility:
- is directed to quarantine, isolate or self-monitor at home for the coronavirus by any doctor, hospital or health agency; or
  - has been diagnosed with (and has not been medically cleared from isolation), or has had close contact with anyone diagnosed with, COVID-19 (within the last fourteen (14) days); or
  - has flulike symptoms or a temperature over 100 degrees Fahrenheit at the door; a n d / o r
  - is not wearing a facial covering in accordance with paragraph 5 above.

This order remains in effect and may not be modified except by further order of the President Judge of this Court or the Pennsylvania Supreme Court.

**BY THE COURT:**

  
Margherita Patti-Worthington, P.J.

cc: Honorable Arthur L. Zulick  
Honorable Jonathan Mark  
Honorable Jennifer Harlacher Sibum  
Honorable Stephen M. Higgins  
Honorable David J Williamson  
Honorable C. Daniel Higgins  
Geoff Moulton, Court Administrator of Pennsylvania  
John J. Goldner, District Court Administrator  
Kathy Sauter, Magisterial District Court Administrator  
Deborah Rivera, Deputy District Court Administrator  
Ken Morris, Sheriff

PROTHONOTARY  
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MONROE COUNTY, PA

George Warden, Prothonotary/Clerk of Courts  
Josephine Ferro, Register and Recorder  
E. David Christine, Esq, District Attorney  
James Gregor, Esq, Chief Public Defender  
Board of Commissioners  
Denise Burdge, Executive Director MCBA  
Brian Jordan, Esq, President MCBA  
Garry Haidle, Warren MCCF  
Tricia Clancy, Information Services  
Court Administration