

THE CIRCUIT COURT FOR QUEEN ANNE'S COUNTY
ADMINISTRATIVE ORDER 20-07

EXTENTION OF EMERGENCY OPERATIONS DUE TO CORONAVIRUS

Whereas we continue to deal with the Novel Coronavirus, more particularly identified as COVID-19, a pandemic; and

Whereas, Chief Judge Mary Ellen Barbera has issued three (3) new Administrative Orders, as of March 25, 2020 on Statewide Judiciary Restricted Operations, Remote Hearings and Suspension of Foreclosures and Evictions; and

Whereas, the public can review the particulars of those Orders on the Judiciary's webpage dedicated to COVID-19 at <https://mdcourts.gov/coronavirusupdate>.

It is therefore, by the Circuit Court of Queen Anne's County, hereby **ORDERED**:

- 1) The Queen Anne's County Circuit Court will adopt those Orders and shall be restricted to **emergency operations thru and including May 1, 2020. Essential personnel will be reporting to the Courthouse for emergency operations.**

- 2) The following **emergency matters** will continue to be scheduled or heard, **preferably remotely**, but in person under certain emergency circumstances as approved by the Administrative Judge;
 - (A) bail reviews/bench warrants
 - (B) arraignments for detained defendants
 - (C) juvenile detention hearings
 - (D) emergency evaluation petitions
 - (E) quarantine and isolation petitions
 - (F) extradition cases
 - (G) body attachments
 - (H) extreme risk protective order appeals
 - (I) All other emergency matters shall be handled as determined by the Administrative Judge, either in person or remotely, or to be scheduled following this emergency period;
 - (1) shelter care hearings and/or related adjudications
 - (2) emergency delinquency hearings
 - (3) emergency Habeas Corpus petitions
 - (4) emergency issues in guardianship matters
 - (5) domestic violence protective orders
 - (6) appeals from peace orders
 - (7) family law emergencies
 - (8) temporary restraining orders
 - (9) criminal competency matters
 - (10) motions regarding:

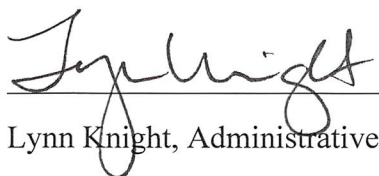
QUEEN ANNE'S COUNTY
2020 MAR 26 AM 11:51
RECEIVED
CLERK, CIRCUIT COURT

- (A) extreme risk protective orders
- (B) domestic violence protective orders
- (C) peace orders
- (11) contempt hearings related to peace or protective orders
- (12) matters involving locally incarcerated defendant.

Foreclosures of residential property, foreclosures of the right to redeem residential property sold in a tax sale, residential evictions, and executions on residential real property under levy or lien are stayed and new or pending types of these actions will be accepted but not processed during this time.

Electronic proceedings for other matters can be scheduled to be heard if all attorneys and/or parties can participate remotely, and by consent. Please contact the law clerk or file an appropriate Motion to schedule those proceedings.

- 3) If you are scheduled to appear in the Courthouse and are unable to do so because of the restrictions, you are directed to proceed as follows:
 - a. If you are represented by an attorney, **please contact your attorney** by telephone or email and advise them of your situation;
 - b. If you are a self-represented litigant, contact the Assignment Office at 410-758-0216 for further information.
- 4) MDEC continues to be available for electronic filings and will be processed by the Clerk's Office. For those without electronic capabilities, a drop-box will be available for hand-delivered filings at the front of the Courthouse, or you are encouraged to file by mail. If you have business with the Clerk's Office, contact them at 410-758-1773.
- 5) All jury trials for the month of April are cancelled and will be rescheduled. Grand Jurors and trial jurors are not required to report in April. Notices will be mailed with instructions or you can check the Court website for further instructions. Questions for the Jury Commissioner can be addressed at 410-758-1773.
- 6) These restrictions will remain in place until the emergency has passed and a formal Order rescinding this Order is entered;
- 7) Any violations of this Order may be punishable by contempt proceedings and/or any other sanction permitted by law.



Lynn Knight, Administrative Judge
Queen Anne's County Circuit Court

March 26, 2020