

**IN THE COURT OF COMMON PLEAS
OF OTTAWA COUNTY, OHIO
PROBATE DIVISION and
JUVENILE DIVISION**

FILED

MAR 18 2020

JUDGE KATHLEEN L. GIESLER
PROBATE AND JUVENILE COURT
OTTAWA COUNTY, OHIO

IN RE:)	CASE NO.
)	
GENERAL ORDERS FOR THE CONTINUED OPERATION OF THE COURT)	<u>GENERAL ORDERS</u>

In order to minimize the effects of the ongoing coronavirus emergency, the Ottawa County Probate and Juvenile Court issues the following General Orders:

- 1.) The Local Rules of the Court may be temporarily adapted to allow court flexibility as necessary.
- 2.) The Court authorizes the use of audio-visual devices and technologies for all actions and proceedings.
- 3.) The public health emergency may be considered a finding of “just cause” for continuances deemed necessary by the judge and/or the magistrates on a case-by-case basis.
- 4.) The judge and/or magistrates may serve orders by email notification and use video and telephone conferencing.
- 5.) Any proceedings conducted electronically where a record is desired or necessary, the Court and parties may jointly craft a statement in lieu of a transcript of the proceedings in accordance with the appellate rules.

6.) All filings will be accepted by U. S. Mail, Fax and Email. Filing fees paid by check can be mailed, or fees can be paid electronically through the nCourt payment system (See "Pay Online" button on the Juvenile and Probate websites).

Juvenile Court Fax: (419) 734-6851
Probate Court Fax: (419) 732-8147

To e-mail Juvenile filings:

- Email rwahlers@co.ottawa.oh.us – AND – "cc" the following:
kkroeger@co.ottawa.oh.us
gshenkel@co.ottawa.oh.us

To e-mail Probate filings:

- Email jsimpson@co.ottawa.oh.us – AND – "cc" the following:
smjenkins@co.ottawa.oh.us
awells@co.ottawa.oh.us

7.) All hearings, pretrial conferences, status conferences, review hearings, and other court proceedings shall be conducted by telephone. Assignment notices with procedural instructions will be provided to the parties and necessary participants.

All until further order of the Court.

IT IS SO ORDERED.



JUDGE KATHLEEN L. GIESLER