

IN THE COURT OF COMMON PLEAS OF LANCASTER COUNTY, PENNSYLVANIA  
SECOND JUDICIAL DISTRICT

IN RE: EXTENSION OF  
JUDICIAL EMERGENCY  
THROUGH MAY 31, 2020

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No. A.D. 30-2020  
Supreme Court Docket No.  
44 MM 2020

CLERK OF COURTS  
2020 APR 24 PM 12:06  
LANCASTER COUNTY, PA

**ADMINISTRATIVE ORDER**

AND NOW, this 24<sup>th</sup> day of April, 2020, consistent with the Pennsylvania Supreme Court's Order dated March 16, 2020, declaring a general, statewide judicial emergency until April 14, 2020, the Pennsylvania Supreme Court's Order dated April 1, 2020, extending the statewide judicial emergency through April 30, 2020 and authorizing the President Judge of a judicial district to declare a judicial emergency through May 31, 2020, this Court's March 17, 2020 Declaration of Judicial Emergency for the Second Judicial District through April 15, 2020, the Administrative Order of April 1, 2020, extending the Judicial Emergency through April 30, 2020, and the ongoing state of emergency due to the COVID-19 pandemic, it is hereby ORDERED as follows:

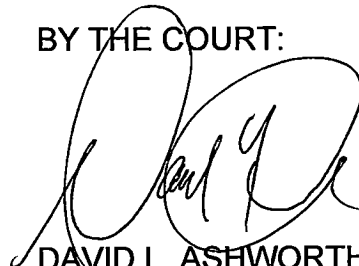
1. In order to balance the public's compelling interest in securing access to judicial services and the mandate of Pennsylvania Rule of Judicial Administration 1952(B)(2) to "take necessary action to provide for the . . . safety of court personnel, court users and the public," the period of Judicial Emergency for the Second Judicial District of the Court of Common Pleas of Lancaster County, Pennsylvania shall be extended through **May 31, 2020**, or until further order of the Pennsylvania Supreme Court or this Court.

2. Criminal jury trials scheduled for June 2020 are continued to July 2020. Criminal nonjury trials may be scheduled with the permission of the President Judge.
3. All criminal cases continued due to this Judicial Emergency shall be continued by the Court and shall constitute excludable time for purposes of the application of Pennsylvania Rule of Criminal Procedure 600, subject to constitutional limitations. See Pa.R.Crim.P. 600(C)(1); Pa.R.Crim.P. 600 cmt. See *also* **Commonwealth v. Mills**, 640 Pa. 118, 122, 162 A.3d 323, 325 (2017); **Commonwealth v. Bradford**, 616 Pa. 122, 141, 46 A.3d 693, 705 (2012).
4. Civil jury trials scheduled for June 2020 shall be rescheduled by the presiding judge after consultation with the President Judge. Civil nonjury trials may be scheduled with permission of the President Judge.
5. Any criminal, civil, family or orphans' court legal papers or pleadings which were required to be filed between March 18, 2020 and April 30, 2020 shall be deemed timely filed if they are filed within 60 days of the original filing deadline. Any such legal papers or pleadings which are required to be filed between May 1, 2020 and May 31, 2020 shall be deemed timely filed if they are filed within 30 days of the original filing deadline. Further extensions of time may be granted by an appellate court, the presiding judge, by stipulation of the parties, or by Administrative Order.
6. Nothing in this Administrative Order or previous Orders shall preclude the filing of any legal papers or pleadings during this Judicial Emergency.
7. To the extent not prohibited by the Governor's March 19, 2020 Order and any subsequent orders which closed all non-life-sustaining businesses (including all

law offices except for legal services with respect to an essential judicial service as defined by the President Judge), each presiding judge or Magisterial District Court may conduct business as it determines to be appropriate and feasible, subject to constitutional restrictions and approval by the President Judge. Such business shall only be conducted by advanced communication technology unless otherwise approved by the President Judge and shall adhere to the United States Center for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) and the Pennsylvania Department of Health guidelines.

8. The Sheriff's Sale scheduled for May 27, 2020, shall take place in Courtroom A of the Lancaster County Courthouse according to the protocols established by the Office of Court Administration and the Sheriff's Office, and consistent with guidelines from the CDC and the Pennsylvania Department of Health.
9. The purpose of this Administrative Order is to begin the gradual re-opening of the Lancaster County Court system in a safe, efficient manner while adhering to CDC and the Pennsylvania Department of Health guidelines in order to protect all court personnel, court users and the public. The Court's Administrative Orders filed on April 1, 2020, and April 7, 2020, not inconsistent with this Order, shall remain in full force and effect through the duration of the Judicial Emergency.

BY THE COURT:



DAVID L. ASHWORTH  
PRESIDENT JUDGE

Attest: *Donna F. [unclear], deputy*

Copies to: Lancaster County Board of Judges  
Lancaster County Magisterial District Judges  
Lancaster County District Court Administrator  
Lancaster County Clerk of Courts  
Lancaster County Prothonotary  
Lancaster County Register of Wills  
Lancaster County Clerk of the Orphans' Court  
Lancaster County Sheriff  
Lancaster County District Attorney  
Lancaster County Public Defender  
Lancaster County Adult Probation & Parole Services  
Lancaster County Prison  
Lancaster County Board of Commissioners  
Lancaster County Solicitor