

COURT OF COMMON PLEAS, GENERAL DIVISION
MUNICIPAL COURT
HAMILTON COUNTY, OHIO

COPY OF ENTRY FILED
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IN RE: JURY TRIALS UNDER EXIGENT : **M220002**
CIRCUMSTANCES CREATED BY :
COVID-19 : **JOINT**
: **ADMINISTRATIVE**
: **ORDER**

In response to the evolving public health emergency created by COVID-19 and the actions taken by national, state, and local officials, the Hamilton County Court of Common Pleas, General Division and the Hamilton County Municipal Court (the "Courts") have implemented measures to mitigate the health risk to the public, Court staff, and all courthouse visitors during the pandemic. Among those measures, the Courts have created COVID jury trial rooms designed to comply with recommended public health emergency guidelines. As we track this evolving health emergency, the Courts will continue to take necessary measures to comply with public health orders and guidelines.

The Courts continue to utilize the scientific expertise of The Health Collaborative to track the progress of COVID in our area. The Health Collaborative is an evidenced-based collaboration which collects daily data from the CDC; the Ohio Department of Health; as well as all local hospitals and health departments in a 14 county region which includes Hamilton County.

On January 30, 2022, it was reported by The Health Collaborative that:

...all trends are in the right direction. In our region, current incidence is 1,295 new cases per 100,000 people per week (down from 2,170 last week...[additionally] [t]he number of COVID-19 positive patients in hospital and ICU beds has stabilized and seems to be starting to decrease.

In light of state-wide and local improvement in the severity of the COVID-19 spread, and having consulted with Hamilton County criminal justice stakeholders, the Courts will resume jury trials (petit jury service) on February 7, 2022 consistent with recommended current reported trends. The Courts will continue to monitor this fluid situation.

With regard to criminal matters, continuances are subject to extension pursuant to R.C. 2945.72(H), "Extension of Time for Hearing or Trial," at the judge's discretion. The Court specifically finds the public health interests are paramount and the ends of justice are best served by this Joint Administrative Order. To the extent this Order

conflicts with any of the Courts' previous COVID-19 related Administrative Orders, this Amended Joint Administrative Order supersedes.

IT IS SO ORDERED.



Hon. Terry Nestor
Presiding Judge, Court of Common Pleas
Administrative Judge, General Division



Hon. Curt Kissinger
Presiding and Administrative Judge
Municipal Court