

These policies and procedures are effective immediately and are being published and distributed publicly. We are keeping a close eye on this, and I am asking all our court employees to be hyper-hygienic in the meantime. If we start to see cases occurring, we will consider all options and take whatever action is necessary to protect the safety of our employees.

*****EMERGENCY NOTICE*****

In the wake of the Declaration of Emergency by Governor Whitmer regarding the spread of the COVID-19 virus, until further notice, all Saginaw County Trial Courts *will remain open*. However, since most of our employees don't have the option of working remotely from home, the next best thing is to reduce their risk and that of the general public to possible exposure to the virus. Therefore, the following intermediate steps *will be immediately in effect*:

- 1) All hearings with vulnerable persons may be adjourned (postponed) upon request. The request must be initiated by or on behalf of the vulnerable person by calling the phone number provided at the end of this document.
- 2) Any civil case may be adjourned upon the request of any party. The request must be initiated by or on behalf of the party making the request by calling the phone number provided at the end of this document.

- 3) ALL Jury trials in all courts will be adjourned until April 13th, 2020.
- 4) ALL citizen and/or student group courtroom field trips will be suspended until further notice.
- 5) Participants in specialty court programs will still attend hearings and sessions by video conferencing set up and scheduled by the individual judge in charge of the program. However, they will no longer appear in court in person until further notice.
- 6) ALL non-custody Friend of The Court show cause hearings, Settlement Conferences and Custody/Parenting Time Investigations will be adjourned and rescheduled beginning in May 2020.
- 7) The Friend of The Court payment window will be closed, and Walk-Ins are suspended until May 2020 as well. Payments can still be made online at [misdu.com](https://www.misdu.com) or by mail to MiSDU, P.O. Box 30351, Lansing, MI 48909-7581. Bond amounts may be paid at Saginaw County Jail utilizing the kiosk.
- 8) Friend of The Court Referee Hearings will remain as scheduled, however parties may choose to appear by phone or may request an adjournment by calling (989) 790-5300.

- 9) Probate Conferences with the Probate Registrar may be held by telephone by calling (989) 790-5323 and asking to speak to Terry Beagle.
- 10) Family Division Show Cause Hearings will be adjourned and rescheduled for May 2020.
- 11) Family Division Delinquency and Abuse/Neglect matters will remain as scheduled, however parties may choose to appear by phone or may request an adjournment by calling (989) 799-2821.
- 12) All Family Division hearings with vulnerable persons may be adjourned (postponed) upon request. The request must be initiated by or on behalf of the vulnerable person by calling (989) 799-2821.
- 13) District Court Probationers should report to their Probation Agents by phone or email on their report dates until further notice. And there will be no walk-in report dates until further notice.
- 14) Criminal defendants not in custody may have hearings adjourned upon request. The request must be initiated by or on behalf of the party making the request.

Those individuals who fail to appear without having contacted the court first, may have a bench warrant issued in criminal cases, or be defaulted in civil cases, civil infractions, or summary proceedings (landlord-tenant matters).

REQUESTS TO ADJOURN/POSTPONE may be made by calling the following numbers, or by email. It is not necessary to appear in person.

For 10th Circuit Court:

(989)-790-5470 pbecker@saginawcounty.com

For 70th District Court:

Civil Division (989) 790-5381 jschmoyer@saginawcounty.com

Criminal Division (989) 790-5386 jroggow@saginawcounty.com

Traffic Division (989) 790-5590 jstewart@saginawcounty.com

Probation Dept. (989)790-5492 jbooker@saginawcounty.com

Administration (989) 790-5596 lvasold@saginawcounty.com

Probate Court: (989) 790-5279 bmiller@saginawcounty.com

Friend of The Court: (989) 790-5300 foc@saginawcounty.com

10th Circuit – Family Division (989) 799-2821

Somers, Carol csomers@saginawcounty.com

Metivier, Jenna jmetivier@saginawcounty.com

Judge Darnell Jackson

Chief Judge Saginaw County Trial Courts