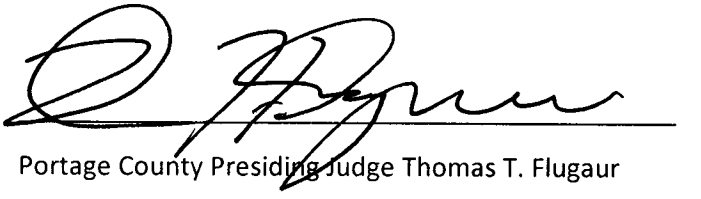
Dated in Stevens Point, Wisconsin this 24th day of March, 2020.



Portage County Presiding Judge Thomas T. Flugaur

STATE OF WISCONSIN CIRCUIT COURT PORTAGE COUNTY

SECOND ORDER REGARDING EMERGENCY TEMPORARY MEASURES

Recognizing that crimes will continue to be committed; children will continue to be abused and neglected and removed from their parents; and mental illness with commitment hearings will continue to occur; the Courts, along with Law Enforcement and Human Services, are essential in maintaining order in a civilized society. The Constitution requires that all court hearings be open to the public, therefore, the Courthouse will always be open during regular business hours.

In response to the March 20, 2020 Wisconsin Supreme Court Order **Suspending All In-Person Proceedings in Circuit Court unless remote technology is not practical or adequate**, the Portage County Courts Are Issuing The Following Emergency Measure Until Further Order Of The Court:

All non-essential court hearings will be adjourned until further notice.

Essential hearings include:

1. Bail Hearings for criminal cases within 48 hours of arrest;
2. Initial Appearances and Bond Hearings for Violent and Public Safety Offenses (e.g. domestic violence; weapons and OWI repeater);
3. Preliminary hearings for In-Custody Defendants;
4. Juvenile Detention Hearings within 24-48 hours after detention;
5. Temporary Physical Custody Hearings for Children in Need of Protection or Services;

6. Mental and Alcohol Commitment Hearings within 72 hours after detention. Final Hearing is within 14 days;
7. Guardianship and Protective Placement Hearings;
8. Pandemic related actions, such as quarantine and isolation cases;
9. Restraining Order cases within 14 days, excluding weekends;
10. Emergency Writs for Mandamus, Habeas Corpus or Injunctive Relief.

There will be some exceptions for non-essential cases that must be discussed with the Judge assigned to the case. If allowed to proceed, the Judicial Assistant will provide instructions on appearing by phone or video conference.

Thank you for your anticipated cooperation and patience during these extraordinary times.