

APR 23 2020

LISA M. ROTH
CLERK OF COURTS

Dated in Stevens Point, Wisconsin this 23rd day of April, 2020.

BY THE COURT:



Portage County Presiding, Judge Thomas T. Flugaur

STATE OF WISCONSIN

CIRCUIT COURT

PORTAGE COUNTY

.....

THIRD ORDER REGARDING EMERGENCY TEMPORARY MEASURES

.....

As a National Health Emergency continues, and 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 and adequate, and the Supreme Court's indefinite extension of said Order on April 15, 2020, the Portage County Courts are issuing the following additional emergency measures until further order of the Court:

1. In addition to essential cases, non-essential matters will now be heard by video-conference and telephone as determined by the judge; examples include:
 - a. Stipulated Divorces where all required paperwork (including the Findings of Fact/Judgment) is filed prior to the hearing;
 - b. Stipulated Plea and Sentencing Hearings where the defense counsel and defendant have thoroughly discussed the process, and a plea questionnaire is filed prior to the hearing;
 - c. Non-Evidentiary Motion Hearings in all areas of the law;

d. Other matters requiring *limited testimony* if approved in advance by the Court;

All jury trials for May and June 2020 will be rescheduled. As to conducting jury trials beyond June 30th, the Courts will monitor the Covid-19 crisis, along with further Directives from the Supreme Court and guidance from Health Professionals, and determine the practical reality of holding a jury trial while practicing social distancing.

Again, thank you for your anticipated cooperation and patience during this very difficult time.

Attached to this Order you will find directions on how to appear by video-conference or telephone from a remote location. The Clerk's notice of hearing will also include the directions. Although not perfect, the Courts have been successfully conducting all essential hearings this past month using the WebEx Remote Access System (which is very similar to the Zoom System).

PORTAGE COUNTY PROCEDURES FOR VIDEOCONFERENCING DURING COVID-19

The Supreme Court of Wisconsin has ORDERED that the courts of the State of Wisconsin remain open. Nevertheless, all in-person proceedings in all appellate and circuit courts are hereby suspended.

Parties should appear by telephone or videoconference unless it is not practical or available to a party and/or the attorney. Attorneys will be responsible for providing the following information to their clients. Using your cell phone, you will dial the following number **1-408-418-9388**. After dialing said number, you will then be asked to enter in a Courtroom meeting number followed by #.

Courtroom Meeting Numbers:

Branch 1: 961014173

Branch 2: 969312423

Branch 3: 965946031

It will then ask you for a pin/ID number, or if unknown, to hit # again. Just hit #. You are then conferenced into that courtroom.

If you would like to appear by video, you may do so by using your laptop. Go to the URL listed below:

<https://portagecounty.webex.com/webappng/sites/portagecounty/dashboard>

Enter in the meeting number. Use the Meeting numbers listed above. Follow the instructions on your laptop/desktop.

PLEASE NOTE The Court will not be calling any party. It is the responsibility of each party to contact the appropriate courtroom at the assigned date and time.