

Press Release June 4, 2020

Delaware County Circuit Courts COVID-19 Policies

The Delaware Circuit Courts have continued to conduct business since Governor Holcomb issued the first stay-at-home order in March. The Courts have been processing pleadings, issuing protective orders, and ruling on motions. Attorneys have continued to submit pleadings using the e-filing system, and self-represented litigants have had access to the Clerk's Filing Office to submit their paperwork. Due to social distancing concerns, the Courts have held a limited number of hearings remotely and some by telephone.

The Courts are now re-scheduling hearings which were delayed due to the stay-at-home orders, and they will begin scheduling hearings as they did prior to March, 2020. From now until further court order, the Courts will hear as many cases as possible on the Zoom platform provided by the Indiana Supreme Court.

Some hearings will be held in the courtrooms. The Delaware County Commissioners are encouraging all persons entering the justice center to wear a mask. Through at least June 17, 2020, Judges are requiring people to wear masks inside the courtrooms.

Seating is limited inside the courtrooms due to social distancing. If you are not a party or a witness, please call the court ahead of time to find out if the case will be live streamed on YouTube. You may be required to watch the proceeding on YouTube rather than inside the courtroom, if space is limited.

The Courts will not conduct jury trials at this time. The judges are waiting for further directions from the Indiana Supreme Court as to when jury trials will resume in Delaware County.

The judges have been meeting on a regular basis to discuss how to conduct court operations, including trials and hearings, in a manner that is safe for parties, witnesses, observers, attorneys, and court employees.

If you are a party or a witness, or if you have business in the justice center, and you do not feel safe to come in, for any reason, the judges will make accommodations for you.

If you need accommodations, or if you have any questions about how your hearing will be conducted, please call the court where your case is being heard. Have your cause number available.

If you are not sure where your case is scheduled, please call the Court Administrator's Office at 765-747-7734 for assistance.

The Court Administrator's Office is also available to answer any questions you may have concerning court procedures during these difficult times. Please call if you need any assistance or if you have any questions.