
ORDER REGARDING TEMPORARY EMERGENCY MEASURES

The Lincoln County Circuit Court is issuing the attached guidelines to provide procedures and direction for proceedings and essential functions in the Court during the next several weeks. **These Guidelines are Emergency and Temporary Measures ONLY effective from March 16, 2020 until May 18, 2020, or upon further Order of the Court.** The Lincoln County courthouse remains open and any change in status will be noticed on the Lincoln County website at www.co.lincoln.wi.us and the Wisconsin Court system website, www.wicourts.gov.

The World Health Organization declared a global pandemic of COVID-19 due to widespread human infection worldwide. We are monitoring this situation and are committed to open access to our courts and service to the public, and to protect the health and safety of the litigants, judges, court staff and security, attorneys, jurors, other participants in court proceedings, and all other persons in the court facilities.

These guidelines are in place to ensure the continuous performance of the court's essential functions and operations and yet seek to mitigate the risk that our employees, lawyers, litigants and jurors will be exposed. The guidelines incorporate use of videoconferencing and teleconferencing to minimize contact, when appropriate; follow social distancing practices; and temporarily suspend some non-essential court functions.

Cases will proceed as currently scheduled unless otherwise notified by the Court. Please note that injunction hearings, criminal preliminary hearings where time limits have not been waived, and mental commitment hearings shall be presumed to be proceeding as originally scheduled UNLESS the parties have specifically been informed otherwise by the Court.

Dated this 18th day of March, 2020.


HON. JAY R. PLUSTY, CIRCUIT COURT
JUDGE, BRANCH I


HON. ROBERT R. RUSSELL, CIRCUIT
COURT JUDGE, BRANCH II