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13th Circuit Court/Antrim County
13th Circuit Court/Grand Traverse County
13th Circuit Court/Leelanau County

Are closed to the General Public Except for Essential Functions Involving Health and Safety and Constitutional Rights

Traverse City, MI March 19, 2020 – The 13th Circuit Court with offices located in Antrim, Grand Traverse and Leelanau counties today announced that access to courtrooms and other spaces is now limited to no more than 10 persons, including staff, effective immediately. The court is closed to the general public except for essential functions involving health and safety and Constitutional rights.

To confront this unprecedented public health crisis, the Michigan Supreme Court issued [Administrative Order 2020-2](#), which highlights in specific detail essential functions. This order supersedes any previously issued Local Administrative Orders regarding the crisis.

“Courts statewide are taking this step in unison so that we send a clear message to the public that we are taking every possible step to stop the virus while continuing to provide justice,” said Chief Judge Kevin A. Elsenheimer. “In the coming days we’ll be doing more of our business on-line, and we appreciate the support and patience of the public as we do so.”

Essential functions include arraignments for in-custody defendants, review and determination of requests for search warrants and personal protection orders, certain child protective proceedings, and critical issues regarding child support and child custody, among others specified in the order. The new order also provides courts with additional flexibility to conduct business using technology such as video and telephone conferencing.

Visit the [Judiciary Response to COVID-19 page](#) for additional information.