

District Judges

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STATE OF MICHIGAN
86th Judicial District Court
GRAND TRAVERSE - LEELANAU - ANTRIM COUNTIES

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March 17, 2020

As we continue to monitor this very fluid situation, the 86th District Court has made the following changes effective March 18, 2020:

CRIMINAL

- ALL misdemeanor cases, non-incarcerated, non-emergent, non-assaultive, non-felony cases will be adjourned until after May 1st.
- ALL probation violation matters will be handled after May 1st, UNLESS the violation poses a significant safety risk (these will be monitored on a case by case basis). We do want you to PV those violations that pose a substantial risk (violations of no-contact orders, significant missed testing or positives, etc.).
- Status conferences will be scheduled out after May 1st and the court will notice the status conference and jury trial at the same time.
- Pre-trials haven't been reset yet and will be scheduled out until after May 1st
- When a defendant is in jail, we will do all of our hearings via Polycom, EXCEPT for Preliminary exams. Waivers of Pre-lims can be done via Polycom.
- Only parties essential to a case are to be allowed in the courthouse.

TRAFFIC COURT

- ALL non-criminal civil infractions who want to offer an explanation can do so by email.
- ALL misdemeanor cases will be adjourned until after May 1st.

CIVIL

- ALL civil matters will be adjourned until after May 1st.

PROBATIONER TESTING

- Effective immediately, New Direction Testing will NOT be doing ANY PBT testing and Leelanau County has suspended ALL testing. We are finding that there have been some other testing facilities that have closed. Be mindful of this when dealing with your probationers.
- Probation officers will be directed to review their caseload. Those probationers who have been on probation for 4 months with few issues will have their daily or random testing cancelled. Discretionary testing will remain in place for ALL probationers. The EXCEPTIONS to this directive will be DV 2nd, Aggravated Assault, Assault and Battery, OWI 2nd and 3rd, High BAC and Felony drug cases or those who have a history of significant issues. **THIS DOES NOT APPLY TO SOBRIETY AND DRUG COURT.**
- If a defendant's case falls within one of the exceptions, and they contact the court regarding being unable to test due to a testing site closure, or COVID-19 related issue, confer with a Judge regarding testing suspension.

BOND TESTING

- ALL bond testing will be suspended. The EXCEPTIONS to this directive are those cases of DV 2nd, Aggravated Assault, Assault and Battery, OWI 2nd and 3rd, High BAC and Felony drug cases.

Again, as we are all aware, this situation continues to change and we are monitoring it very closely. Our goal is to make sure our staff and our clients are protected, while making sure that our Court provides the essential services that we have identified.

Thank you,

The 86th District Court Administrative Team