

IN THE COURT OF COMMON PLEAS
OF NORTHUMBERLAND COUNTY, PENNSYLVANIA

8 TH JUDICIAL DISTRICT	:	
JUDICIAL EMERGENCY PROCEDURES	:	NO. AD-20-9

ORDER

AND NOW, this 29th day of October, 2020, pursuant to the Order of the Supreme Court dated May 27, 2020 relating to the cessation of statewide judicial emergency after June 1, 2020 and the authority of the President Judges of the local judicial districts, and in view of the report of the positivity rate increases of COVID-19 in the county and the up surge of COVID-19 infections in the county, IT IS HEREBY ORDERED and DECREED as follows:

1. This court's order of May 6, 2020, setting forth safety precautions for access to the courthouse shall remain in effect until December 31, 2020¹.
2. Statewide rules that restrict, directly or indirectly, the use of advanced communication technologies are suspended; therefore the Court and related entities are hereby authorized to utilize communication technology to conduct Court proceedings
3. Statewide rules that impede local provision for court filings by means other than in-person delivery are suspended.


¹ The following safety procedures are in place:

- a. All individuals entering the courthouse shall wear masks;
- b. Temperatures may be taken upon entrance;
- c. Social distancing is required at all times;
- d. Row offices may require an appointment for certain services or access;
- e. Special limitations have been imposed as to Court Rooms Nos.3 and 4, in that the number of persons at one time is 10 and;
- f. If an individual is feeling ill or exhibiting any symptoms of COVID-19, they are to contact the office in which they have a scheduled matter for how to proceed with any rescheduling.

4. Statewide rules pertaining to the rule-based right of criminal defendants to a prompt trial are suspended; and
5. Jury trials are suspended for November; but they may be held in December 2020.

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that this Order shall be posted at a public location in all Court facilities, shall be made available on the County and Court website and shall be provided to the Northumberland County Legal Journal for publication.

BY THE COURT:



Charles H. Saylor President Judge