

MEMORANDUM

To: AOPC

From: John J. Trucilla, President Judge for the Sixth Judicial District

Date: March 16, 2020

Re: COVID 19 Response

In an effort to reduce exposure to the COVID-19 virus, Erie County has implemented policies in the Court of Common Pleas and court-related departments (to include Adult Probation/Parole, Juvenile Probation, Domestic Relations, Custody, and the Court's IT Department).

The Erie County Court of Common Pleas for the Sixth Judicial District will remain open for the conduct of official business, subject to the following:

1. Effective this date, all civil and criminal jury selections and jury trials scheduled to begin on March 16, 2020 through March 20, 2020, are continued until at least the April Criminal Trial Term (which commences on April 6, 2020).
2. All trial-specific deadlines in all civil and criminal cases remain in effect unless modified by further Order of Court or Order of the assigned Judge.
3. Individual judicial officers may continue to hold hearings, conferences, sentencings, pleas, and bench trials in the exercise of their sound discretion, after reasonable consultation with counsel. When possible, such hearings will be conducted via telephone or video conferencing.

Further, remote/telecommute work may be approved by Department Heads on a case-by-case basis.

Of course, noting the fluid nature of these circumstances, the current situation will continue to be monitored, with policies being modified as circumstances warrant.