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MARTIN J. DEBETI
CLERK AND REGISTER

IN THE COURT OF COMMON PLEAS OF MERCER COUNTY, PENNSYLVANIA

IN RE: MAY CALL OF LIST/PRETRIAL :
EMERGENCY CHANGES : No. 2020 - AD 11

ADMINISTRATIVE ORDER

AND NOW, this 14th day of April, 2020, in consideration of the continuing coronavirus health crisis and the need to protect the public, the court's schedule is modified as follows:

I. MAY 6, 2020 CALL OF THE LIST

A. The May 6, 2020 Call of the List is NOT cancelled but modified as follows:

1. No criminal defendant shall appear in person at the Mercer County Courthouse whether represented or unrepresented.
 - a. Any defendant appearing shall be advised by the Sheriff's department that his/her hearing has been rescheduled for Wednesday, June 3, 2020 at 8:30 a.m. in Courtrooms 1 or 2 on the second floor of the courthouse unless that defendant's case is scheduled for a plea in May.

b. Pleas will be scheduled as follows and heard in Courtroom No. 2:

(1) Tuesday, May 12, 2020 for President Judge Yeatts

(2) Wednesday, May 13, 2020 for Judge Nesbit

(3) Thursday, May 14, 2020 for Judge Wallace

(4) Friday, May 15, 2020 for Judge Amrhein

Those not sentenced at the time of their plea will be sentenced by President Judge Yeatts (those cases from his list) and by Judge Nesbit (those cases from his list) unless otherwise agreed upon.

c. Defense attorneys are responsible for notifying their clients of the continuance or plea as the case may be.

2. Attorneys shall appear for Call of the List to discuss their cases.

a. Attorneys may appear by teleconference provided they have coordinated such appearance with opposing counsel such that opposing counsel will be present at the time of the teleconference.

b. Attorneys may submit any motion, agreement, or status report in writing provided the writing is signed by both attorneys.

- c. Attorneys shall use their best efforts to resolve or at least reach a consensus on how the case will proceed.
 3. All four courtrooms will be handling Call of the List:
 - a. President Judge Yeatts' list will be split with Judge Amrhein, with President Judge Yeatts taking the first half of his list (if an odd number, President Judge Yeatts will take the extra case) and with Judge Amrhein taking the second half of the list.
 - b. Judge Nesbit's list will be split with Judge Wallace, with Judge Nesbit taking the first half of his list (if an odd number, Judge Nesbit will take the extra case) and with Judge Wallace taking the second half of the list.
 4. No defendants will be brought over from the Mercer County Jail; however, attorneys will be expected to discuss the status of those cases.
- B. All persons present, including attorneys, court staff, sheriff deputies, and others shall practice social distancing and take all other precautions. In the smaller courtrooms this may result in attorneys waiting outside the courtroom until it is their turn to present their cases.

II. MAY 11, 2020 CRIMINAL PRETRIAL CONFERENCES

A. The May 11, 2020 criminal pretrial conferences are NOT cancelled but modified as follows:

1. No defendant shall appear in person.
2. Unless their client is entering a plea, attorneys may appear via teleconferencing provided they have coordinated such appearance with opposing counsel such that opposing counsel will be present at the time of the teleconference.
3. Only Mercer County Jail cases will be heard. Defendants shall appear by video conferencing in accordance with the following schedule:
 - a. The pretrial conferences will be held in Courtroom No. 2.
 - b. Judge Yeatts' cases will be heard from 9:00 a.m. to 10:30 a.m.
 - c. Judge Amrhein's cases will be heard from 10:30 a.m. to noon.
 - d. Judge Wallace's cases will be heard from 1:30 p.m. to 3:00 p.m.

- e. Judge Nesbit's cases will be heard from 3:00 p.m. to 4:30 p.m.
- 4. Guilty pleas, if any, will be taken by video conference.
- 5. All persons present, including attorneys, court staff, sheriff deputies, and others shall practice social distancing and take all other precautions.

III. JUNE 3, 2020 CALL OF THE LIST

A. At this time the June 3, 2020 Call of the List and the June 8, 2020 criminal pretrial conferences will be heard as scheduled subject to further Order of Court.

- 1. It is anticipated that the June Call of the List will be very long considering the modifications of the April and May Calls of the List. Therefore, the following shall occur:
 - a. Attorneys shall use their best efforts to speak with one another prior to June's Call of the List to see what cases can be resolved.
 - b. It is possible that all four courtrooms will be scheduled to hear cases.

- c. Counsel are advised that Call of the List could run very long into the evening and they shall prepare their schedules accordingly.
- d. Counsel shall advise their clients that they should come alone and recommend to them for health reasons that others accompanying the defendant should remain in their cars. If a defendant insists that these others be present we will call that case as early as possible.
- e. All persons present, including attorneys, court staff, sheriff deputies, and others shall practice social distancing and take all other precautions. In the smaller courtrooms this may result in attorneys and defendants waiting outside until their case is ready to be presented.

IV. MISCELLANEOUS

- 1. It is expected that all persons present will act with courtesy and patience during this crisis period.

BY THE COURT:



Robert G. Yeatts, President Judge P.J.