

IN THE SUPREME COURT OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN RE: 49th JUDICIAL DISTRICT)
JUDICIAL EMERGENCY ORDER) 39-MM-2020
)
)

REQUEST FOR EMERGENCY JUDICIAL ORDER

1. Pamela A. Ruest, President Judge of the 49th Judicial District, hereby requests the following relief by Order of the Supreme Court:
 - a. Authorize the president judge to declare a judicial emergency in this judicial district through August 31, 2021 to take the actions set forth in paragraph 1b as authorized by Pa.R.J.A. No. 1952(B)(2).
 - b. Suspend or modify statewide procedural or administrative rules in this judicial district as follows:
 1. Authorize the temporary relocation of jury selection from the County seat of Bellefonte, Pennsylvania to the Penn Stater Conference Center and Hotel in State College, Pennsylvania for August 2, 3 and 4, 2021.
 2. Authorize the expanded use of advanced communication technology (ACT) to conduct court proceedings for all criminal matters, including preliminary hearings, waiver hearings, sentencings and probation/parole violation hearings.
 3. Authorize the Prothonotary/Clerk of Courts to continue to accept electronic filings while a local rule is being promulgated.
2. The circumstances necessitating this request for an emergency judicial order are as follows:
 - a. As to jury selection, a contract has been signed for use of the Penn Stater for August 2, 3 and 4, 2021 and jurors have already been summoned. This locale will further allow

the safe selection of jurors.

b. As to continuing to use ACT, Centre County has two State Correctional Institutions and using ACT is far more cost effective and reduces security risks.

c. As to electronic filing, it is beneficial to all litigants and attorneys, and more cost effective.

3. To the extent possible and practical under the circumstances, notice of this request for an emergency judicial order will be:

a. Posted in the courthouse or other judicial office

b. Posted on the court's or county's website

c. Posted on the county bar association's website

d. Submitted to the Administrative Office of Pennsylvania Courts for publication pursuant to Rule of Judicial Administration No. 1952(C)(5)

4. Interested parties are advised that objections to any emergency judicial order issued by the Supreme Court should be transmitted to the Supreme Court Prothonotary.

Signed: Pamela A. Ruest
Pamela A. Ruest, President Judge

Date: June 25, 2021

County of Centre



PAMELA A. RUEST
PRESIDENT JUDGE

(814) 548-1190
Fax (814) 548-1192

FORTY-NINTH JUDICIAL DISTRICT OF PENNSYLVANIA
Judge's Chambers
Centre County Courthouse
102 South Allegheny Street, Room 203
Bellefonte, Pennsylvania 16823

JONATHAN D. GRINE, JUDGE
KATHERINE V. OLIVER, JUDGE
BRIAN K. MARSHALL, JUDGE
DAVID E. GRINE, SENIOR JUDGE
THOMAS KING KISTLER, SENIOR JUDGE

June 25, 2021


Irene Bizzoso, Esquire
Prothonotary of the Supreme Court of PA
Pennsylvania Judicial Center
601 Commonwealth Avenue
Suite 4500
PO Box 62575
Harrisburg, PA 17106

RE: Request for Emergency Judicial Order
39 MM 2020

Dear Prothonotary Bizzoso:

I have attached a Request for Emergency Judicial Order to be filed at the above number. I am also mailing the original to you. Please contact me if you need anything additional.

Very truly yours,


Pamela A. Ruest
President Judge

PAR:wka

cc: H. Geoffrey Moulton, Jr., Court Administrator of PA (by email)

Enclosure