

COURT OPERATION ORDER

Due to the recent increase in the number of positive Covid-19 cases in Macon County and in order to protect the health and safety of litigants, staff and attorneys, the Macon County Criminal Justice Center will observe the following procedures until Monday, October 26, 2020 at 8:00 a.m. Should the need for an extension of these procedures beyond October 26, 2020 be necessary, Macon County Mayor Steve Jones, Macon County Sheriff Mark Gammons and this Court will confer and issue subsequent Orders.

The 15th Judicial District Covid Plan prepared by the Judges of the 15th Judicial District, approved by the Tennessee Supreme Court and entered on May 4, 2020, shall remain in full force and effect subject to the following temporary changes:

1) NO member of the public at large that does not have a court date set that particular day will be granted admission to the Criminal Justice Center. Exceptions may only be granted by the Judge for purposes of witness testimony or other appropriate reasons.

2) Out of custody Defendants or litigants will be brought in from the parking lot in groups of ten (10). After each group of ten (10) is resolved, an additional group of ten (10) shall be summoned from the parking lot.

3) Out of custody Defendants or litigants that exhibit Covid-19 symptoms or who have been exposed will be given a subsequent court date in the parking lot and will not be admitted. Those litigants must provide proof of a Covid-19 nasal swab test upon his/her return date.

4) If necessary, inmates will be transported from the jail to the courtroom one at a time. The number of inmates and the manner in which this is handled will be determined by Sheriff Gammons in his discretion.

5) The County Probation Office will be closed effective 12:00 Noon, Tuesday, October 13, 2020 until 8:00 a.m. on Monday, October 26, 2020. The employees of the County Probation Office are encouraged to continue to carry out their duties by telecommuting to the extent that it is possible.

6) The Macon County Jail is closed for public access with the exception of those attorneys that need to meet with incarcerated clients. Those arrangements are to be made through the Chief Deputy.

7) The offices of the Clerk and Master and Circuit Court Clerk shall remain open provided those persons needing to conduct in-person business with the Clerk's office shall call the Clerk's office upon arrival at the Justice Center to request entrance into the building. The Clerk's shall admit no more than one (1) customer per office at a time. All persons conducting business at the Clerk's office shall wear a face covering when entering the building and it shall remain on and in a proper position until they leave the building.

8) Third-Party contractors and/or vendors shall not enter into the building.

9) Failure to follow the terms of this Order may subject persons to contempt proceedings.

10) At the expiration of this Order, the May 4, 2020 order will remain in full force and effect.

ENTERED this the 15th day of October 2020.



HONORABLE BRODY KANE
PRESIDING JUDGE
15TH JUDICIAL DISTRICT