

## COVID-19 Checklist for Courts and Judges

### Ohio Supreme Court Recommendations for Courts and Judges

### Protecting Against COVID-19

Ohio Supreme Court Chief Justice Maureen O'Connor has announced that the court will provide grants to local courts to obtain video conferencing equipment to more safely conduct arraignments and other conferences amid the COVID-19 pandemic. Courts are to remain open to address emergency and time-sensitive matters.

Justice O'Connor has asked that judges in each county:

- Cooperate to issue orders and establish uniform, consistent procedures to continue essential court functions. Courts can be closed to the public for non-essential purposes.
- Collaborate with local leaders, including clerks of court, health and law enforcement officials, attorneys, treatment providers, children services providers, and others to develop a plan to ensure continued access.
- Prioritize workload to reduce public traffic and the need for jury pools.
- Employ the use of technology and modify orders to reduce in-person interactions.
- Consider lowering bonds and using summons instead of arrests to help minimize jail populations.
- Grant continuances upon reasonable grounds or use alternative methods for non-essential court appearances.
- Ensure that clerk's offices remain open and accessible to the public.
- Temporarily stay eviction and foreclosure proceedings, as appropriate.
- Temporarily refrain from issuing warrants for failure to appear for traffic violations, minor misdemeanors and non-violent misdemeanors.
- Find ways to provide adequate remote treatment options for people with substance use disorders.

- ☑ Allow probation/community control and pretrial supervision meetings to be held by phone or video.
- ☑ Use discretion to release incarcerated people who at high-risk of becoming infected with COVID-19.

For additional information, visit [coronavirus.ohio.gov](https://coronavirus.ohio.gov).

For answers to your COVID-19 questions, call 1-833-4-ASK-ODH (1-833-427-5634).

If you or a loved one are experiencing anxiety related to the coronavirus pandemic, help is available. Call the Disaster Distress Helpline at 1-800-985-5990 (1-800-846-8517 TTY); connect with a trained counselor through the Ohio Crisis Text Line by texting the keyword "4HOPE" to 741 741; or call the Ohio Department of Mental Health and Addiction Services help line at 1-877-275-6364 to find resources in your community.

# CORONAVIRUS DISEASE 2019 **Ohio** | Department of Health

Protect yourself and others from COVID-19 by taking these precautions.

## PREVENTION

For additional information call 1-833-4-ASK-ODH or visit [coronavirus.ohio.gov](https://coronavirus.ohio.gov).



STAY HOME



PRACTICE SOCIAL DISTANCING



GET ADEQUATE SLEEP AND EAT WELL-BALANCED MEALS



WASH HANDS OFTEN WITH WATER AND SOAP (20 SECONDS OR LONGER)



DRY HANDS WITH A CLEAN TOWEL OR AIR DRY YOUR HANDS



COVER YOUR MOUTH WITH A TISSUE OR SLEEVE WHEN COUGHING OR SNEEZING



AVOID TOUCHING YOUR EYES, NOSE, OR MOUTH WITH UNWASHED HANDS OR AFTER TOUCHING SURFACES



CLEAN AND DISINFECT "HIGH-TOUCH" SURFACES OFTEN



CALL BEFORE VISITING YOUR DOCTOR



PRACTICE GOOD HYGIENE HABITS

For more information, visit: [coronavirus.ohio.gov](https://coronavirus.ohio.gov)

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