

IN THE COURT OF COMMON PLEAS OF ERIE COUNTY,  
PENNSYLVANIA

IN RE:

SIXTH JUDICIAL DISTRICT  
DECLARATION OF  
JUDICIAL EMERGENCY

2020 NOV 12 PM 2:24

CLERK OF RECORDS  
PROTHONOTARY

ADMINISTRATIVE ORDER

NO. 90014 OF 2020

EMERGENCY JUDICIAL ORDER

AND NOW, to-wit, this 12<sup>th</sup> day of November, 2020:

WHEREAS, by Order of the Supreme Court of Pennsylvania dated May 27, 2020, a President Judge of a Court of Common Pleas is authorized to exercise emergency powers beyond the time of an existing declaration of a judicial emergency; and

WHEREAS, Erie County, Pennsylvania, is currently experiencing a substantial increase in the number of reported COVID-19 cases; and

WHEREAS, implementing expanded use of advanced communication technologies, limiting participation of individuals in court proceedings, and suspending time calculations for speedy trial rights in criminal cases is necessary to safeguard the health and safety of court personnel, litigants, and members of the public;

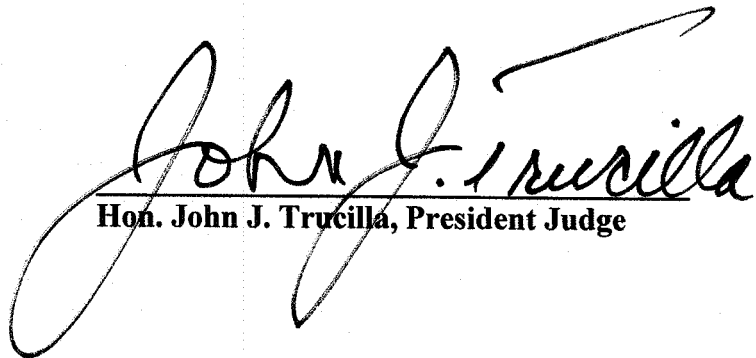
NOW, THEREFORE, it is hereby **ORDERED, ADJUDGED** and **DECREED**, that effective immediately:

1. All criminal and civil jury trials for the Sixth Judicial District of the Court of Common Pleas of Erie County, Pennsylvania shall be **POSTPONED** due to the COVID-19 pandemic through January 4, 2021, at which time a review of the COVID-19 data will be commenced. **Due to the COVID-19 pandemic and concern for public health and safety, as well as concern for the protection of a defendant's constitutional right to a speedy trial, this postponement shall be considered a Court postponement and shall constitute excludable time for purposes of the application of Pa. R. Crim. P. 600, subject to constitutional limitations.**

2. All trial-specific deadlines in all civil and criminal cases remain in effect unless modified by further Order of this Court or Order of the assigned judge.
3. The use of technology, including teleconference and video conferencing, is permitted, and encouraged, for any available Court proceedings.
4. Individual judicial officers, including the Family and Trial Divisions of the Court of Common Pleas and the Magisterial District Justices, may continue to hold hearings, conferences, sentencings, pleas, and bench trials in the exercise of their sound discretion, after reasonable consultation with counsel. To the extent possible, the use of telecommunication/video conference should be utilized. The judicial officer is expected to limit in-person proceedings to necessary parties only. All individuals present in court facilities shall wear face coverings and practice social distancing. Face coverings may be removed only with the permission of the presiding judge when individuals are testifying or addressing the court.

**ALL OTHER TERMS OF THE PRIOR JUDICIAL ORDERS AT THIS DOCKET NOT INCONSISTENT WITH THE ABOVE SHALL REMAIN IN FULL FORCE AND EFFECT.**

11-12-2020  
Date

  
Hon. John J. Trucilla, President Judge

cc: Geoff Moulton, Esq., Court Administrator of Pennsylvania  
Irene M. Bizzoso Esq., Prothonotary, Supreme Court of Pennsylvania  
The Honorable Stephanie Domitrovich  
The Honorable Elizabeth K. Kelly  
The Honorable Daniel Brabender, Jr.  
The Honorable John J. Mead  
The Honorable Joseph M. Walsh, III  
The Honorable Marshall J. Piccinini  
The Honorable David G. Ridge  
The Honorable Erin Connelly Marucci  
MDJ Scott B. Hammer, Association President

Robert Catalde, Esq., District Court Administrator  
Julia Bagnoni, Esq., Deputy Court Administrator  
Rebecca Humphrey, Esq., Deputy Court Administrator  
John Loomis, Erie County Sheriff  
Kenneth Gamble, Esq., Clerk of Records  
Kelly Malone, Prothonotary  
Aubrea Haynes, Clerk of Courts  
Tammi Elkin, Esq., Register of Wills  
David Bradford, Esq., Recorder of Deeds  
Jack Daneri, Esq., District Attorney  
Patricia J. Kennedy, Esq., Public Defender