

IN THE MATTER OF
RESTRICTIONS ON VISITORS
TO COURTHOUSE DUE TO
NOVEL COVID-19 VIRUS

IN THE
CIRCUIT COURT
FOR
CARROLL COUNTY

ADMINISTRATIVE ORDER

WHEREAS the world and its many governments are responding to a novel coronavirus (“SARS-CoV-2”) which causes a new disease (“COVID-19”);

WHEREAS on March 5, 2020, the Governor declared “that a state of emergency and catastrophic health emergency exists within the entire state of Maryland;”

WHEREAS on March 11, 2020, the World Health Organization announced that the spread of COVID-19 qualified as a pandemic;

WHEREAS on March 12, 2020, the Chief Judge of the Court of Appeals issued an order suspending non-essential judicial activities in Maryland’s courts, and on March 16, 2020 restricted courts to emergency operations;

WHEREAS it is imperative to protect the health and safety of employees, judges, attorneys and litigants during emergency operations and for the foreseeable future;

NOW THEREFORE, pursuant to Rule 16-105(b), it is hereby:

ORDERED that:

1. The following persons (INCLUDING STAFF) may not enter the Circuit Court for Carroll County without prior permission from either the Administrative Judge or his designee or the Clerk of Court:
 - a. Persons who have been outside the United States in the last 14 days;

- b. Persons who have been in any country or region in the last 14 days where COVID-19 is widespread, including:
 - i. STATE OF WASHINGTON
 - ii. NEW ROCHELLE, NEW YORK
 - iii. CHINA
 - iv. SOUTH KOREA
 - v. JAPAN
 - vi. ITALY
 - vii. SPAIN
 - viii. IRAN
 - ix. EGYPT;
- c. Persons who reside or have had close contact with someone who has been in the locations set forth in (a) and (b) above within the last 14 days;
- d. Persons who have been asked to self-quarantine by any doctor, hospital, or health agency;
- e. Persons who have been diagnosed with, or have had contact with, anyone who has been diagnosed with COVID-19;
- f. Persons who are experiencing any acute respiratory illness symptoms (i.e. cough, shortness of breath), flu-like symptoms, have a fever, or are coughing or sneezing;
- and

2. The Carroll County Circuit Court Bailiffs and or Carroll County Sheriff's Department Deputies shall deny entry into the courthouse to anyone attempting to enter in violation of this Order; and

3. The Sheriff's Office or Court Bailiffs shall post this Order on the doors or within a reasonable area of the doorways and entrances to any courthouse or building used by this Court to conduct business; and
4. If you are scheduled or required to appear at the Circuit Court for Carroll County and are unable to enter because of the restrictions in this Order, you are directed to proceed as follows:
 - a. If you are represented by an attorney, please contact your attorney by telephone or email;
 - b. If you are an attorney and you are scheduled to appear in court before a judge or magistrate, please contact the judge's or magistrate's chambers by telephone or email;
 - c. If you are a self-represented litigant, contact the office of the Clerk of Court by telephone or email;
 - d. If you have business with the Clerk of Court, contact the office of the Clerk of Court by telephone or email;
 - e. If you have business or meetings scheduled with Drug Treatment Court staff, contact the Drug Treatment Court staff by telephone or email;
 - f. If you have business with the Register of Wills or Orphan's Court, contact the office of the Register of Wills by telephone or email; and
5. The restrictions in this order will remain in place indefinitely, pending further order of this Court.

3/18/2020

Date



FRED S. HECKER
Administrative Judge