# IN THE MUNICIPAL COURT OF CHILLICOTHE, OHIO

#### IN THE MATTER OF:

# CONTINUED MAINTENANCE OF COURT OPERATIONS SUBSEQUENT TO THE EXPIRATION OF THE STATE OF OHIO PUBLIC HEALTH EMERGENCY DUE TO THE CORONAVIRUS (COVID-19) PANDEMIC

CVH 22 00000 FILED

SEP 1 4 2022

TINA E. LARGE, CLERK GHILLICOTHE MUNICIPAL COURT CHILLICOTHE, OHIO

This Court's previous Temporary Order filed November 9, 2021, is rescinded. The following Orders shall take effect September 19, 2022:

1. The Chillicothe Municipal Court will remain open and functioning, subject to the restrictions or limitations established by the Court. The Court's hours of operation may be reduced at the discretion of the Court to allow cleaning and disinfecting of the building. The Court is currently open to the public from 8:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.

#### Attorneys and Court Visitors

2. Any person may be required to wear a mask or face covering when it is deemed necessary to protect others from illness.

3. Any visitor to the Chillicothe Municipal Court will be required to check-in online, by telephone, or in person before entering the building. The procedure for check-in is found on the home page of the Chillicothe Municipal Court Website. The Court may, at its discretion, modify check-in procedures as it deems necessary or appropriate. The Court reserves the right to limit the number of persons who will be admitted per case, and to limit the number of persons who may be present in the courtrooms or hallways at any given time. Admission of persons essential to a case (e.g., litigants, witnesses, etc.) shall be given priority. Visitors will only be allowed to come into the building when directed by court personnel.

4. All persons must remain in their cars or wait outside until they are notified to come into the building.

#### Magistrate Hearings and Proceedings

5. The magistrate may establish rules and guidelines for persons who are to appear before the magistrate. The rules and guidelines may include, but are not limited to, the use of face masks or facial coverings, requiring persons to wait outdoors or in vehicles until instructed to enter the building, and the manner of presentation of exhibits.

## Courtrooms

6. Masks or face coverings are optional for persons appearing in Courtrooms 1 and 2. However, the courtroom staff or the judge may require any person to wear a face mask or covering if it is deemed necessary for the health and safety of the other occupants of the courtroom.

7. In the event a mask or face covering is worn by one or more trial participants, removal of masks or face coverings may be required temporarily when testifying or to identify a defendant where the identification of a defendant is required in the case.

8. Visitors should be seated a safe distance from one another throughout the gallery of the courtrooms.

9. Those defendants that are held at the Ross County Law Enforcement Complex shall continue to appear for all proceedings via the video system, unless ordered by the judge.

## Jury Trials

10. Jurors shall check with Chillicothe Municipal Court as instructed to determine if they need to report for jury duty and to receive further instructions.

11. Counsel for the trial shall check-in with the Court's bailiff by 8:30 a.m. Counsel shall confirm to the bailiff that counsel has been in contact with his or her client and witnesses and will have them available at the court as directed by the Court.

12. Any jailed person to appear for jury trial may be required to submit to a rapid test the day before appearing at court for trial. Failure to submit to the test will result in a continuance of the case. Rationale: The CDC and state recommendations continue to state that persons in such environments must follow the prior protocols.

13. The trial judge may issue additional orders deemed necessary for appropriate health and safety measures.

So ORDERED this 14 day of September, 2022.

John/B. Street Administrative and Presiding Judge

Judge