

PROBATE COURT DIVISION  
HAMILTON COUNTY, OHIO

FILED

MAY 01 2020

IN RE: WILLIAM HOWARD TAFT LAW CENTER  
ACCESS SCREENING UNDER  
CIRCUMSTANCES CREATED BY COVID-19

ADMINISTRATIVE ORDER  
BY JUDGE RALPH WINKLER  
202000003  
& EX-OFFICIO CLERK

The Hamilton County Probate Court and Ohio 1<sup>st</sup> District Court of Appeals has taken proactive steps in an effort to maintain critical Court functions while attempting to mitigate the unprecedented risks to participants, Court staff and the public caused by COVID-19 pandemic.

To protect the public from the spread of COVID-19, Governor Mike DeWine, the Ohio Department of Health and the Center for Disease Control have recommended businesses conduct daily temperature checks with touchless (forehead/temporal artery) thermometers.

Accordingly, it is hereby ordered any person entering the William Howard Taft Law Center at 230 E. 9<sup>th</sup> Street, including all Hamilton County Employees, anyone seeking to participate in or attend a Court hearing, or anyone seeking to conduct business or access services within the building, shall submit to screening questions and a noninvasive temperature check administered at the discretion of Court Security Staff/Hamilton County Deputy Sheriffs prior to admission. To ensure everyone complies with this Order, both the back dock and alleyway doors are closed for entry into the building.

No one who has been exposed within the last 14 days to someone suspected or confirmed to have COVID-19 shall be permitted to enter the building. Any individuals exhibiting signs of respiratory infection (cough, fever, shortness of breath) may be denied access at the discretion of the Court Security Staff/Deputy Sheriff. If the individual screened has a temperature that exceeds 100.4 degrees Fahrenheit, individual shall not be permitted to enter the building.

Employees who are denied admission based on a temperature check shall report the incident as soon as practicable to their supervisor via telephone or email. Anyone seeking to attend a court hearing shall be instructed to call their attorney or the courtroom staff of the judge presiding over the proceedings. If any individual refuses to submit to a screening they shall not be permitted in the building.

The Sheriff and/or his Deputies and other agents shall not be liable for anyone who is admitted or denied access to the 230 E. 9<sup>th</sup> Street building regardless of such person's medical health.

This Order is effective Monday May 4, 2020 and until further order of the Court or dissolution of the State of Emergency declared by Governor DeWine.

FILED

IT IS SO ORDERED.

*Ralph Winkler*

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CLERK OF COURT  
COMMON PLEAS PROBATE COURT

Hon. Ralph Winkler  
Presiding Judge, Probate Division

*RJ Mock*

Hon. Russell Mock  
Presiding Judge, 1<sup>st</sup> District Court of Appeals