

IN THE COURT OF COMMON PLEAS OF MONTGOMERY COUNTY, PENNSYLVANIA

IN RE: JUDICIAL EMERGENCY ORDER : NO. 2020-00001

29 MM 2020

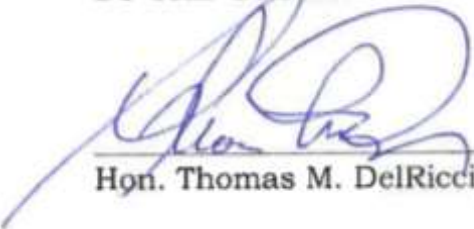
**ORDER**

**AND NOW**, this 19<sup>th</sup> day of March, 2020, the Court having declared a judicial emergency in the 38<sup>th</sup> Judicial District of Pennsylvania on March 12, 2020, the Court hereby **AMENDS** its Judicial Emergency Order of March 17, 2020, and authorizes the following actions to be taken pursuant to Pa.R.J.A. No. 1952(B)(2), effective March 20, 2020:

- **Montgomery County Court of Common Pleas** will continue with limited operations for **EMERGENCY MATTERS ONLY** in the Montgomery County Courthouse, Norristown. The hours of operation for the Common Pleas Court will be 9 a.m. to 2 p.m., Monday through Friday. Temporary Protection from Abuse processing will stop as of 1 p.m. daily. Access to the Courthouse will be limited to the Main Street entrance **ONLY**, and **ONLY FOR INDIVIDUALS FILING OR APPEARING FOR A SCHEDULED EMERGENCY MATTER**. A list of what is considered an emergency matter, for which the Court will be open, is available on the Court's website - [www.montcopa.org/285/County-Courts](http://www.montcopa.org/285/County-Courts);
- The only **County/Court employees** permitted to enter the Montgomery County Courthouse are those that are designated by their respective Department Head as necessary to provide emergency services, or those given specific written authority by their respective Department Head for the time and date that the employee's presence is necessary;
- The **Juvenile Court Facility** (the Court side) at 540 Port Indian Road, West Norriton will be **CLOSED** to the public until further notice. Emergency juvenile proceedings will be held in the Montgomery County Courthouse and will be conducted by means of videoconferencing;
- The **Common Pleas Court Filing Offices** (Prothonotary, Clerk of Courts, Clerk of the Orphans' Court) will remain **CLOSED** to the public until further notice, **except to process any filings related to the EMERGENCY MATTERS permitted by this Order.** Orphans' Court emergency filings will be accepted for filing in the Prothonotary's Office. For all non-emergency matters, on-line filings will continue to be accepted;

- **Magisterial District Courts in Montgomery County** will remain **CLOSED** to the public until further notice, with the exception of preliminary arraignments in criminal cases, the resulting preliminary hearings for incarcerated individuals **ONLY** and emergency protection from abuse petitions. Any such hearings will be conducted by the on-call Magisterial District Judge, and **WILL BE** conducted by means of videoconferencing;
- **Montgomery County Domestic Relations Office** will remain **CLOSED** to the public until further notice. On-line DRO filings will continue to be accepted. The Family Master facility, 321 Swede Street, will remain **CLOSED** to the public until further notice;
- **Montgomery County Adult Probation Office** will be available to handle emergency court matters (noted above). Supervision services will be handled using technology. The APO Offices at 408 Cherry Street, Norristown and the satellite offices in Lansdale and Willow Grove will remain **CLOSED** to the public until further notice;
- **Montgomery County Juvenile Probation Office** will be available to handle emergency juvenile matters (noted above). Supervision services will be handled using technology. The JPO Office at 530 Port Indian Road, West Norriton will remain **CLOSED** to the public until further notice;
- **Montgomery County Law Library** will remain **CLOSED** to the public until further notice.

**BY THE COURT:**



Hon. Thomas M. DelRicci, P.J.