

**BEGINNING JUNE 5, 2020 AT 5:00 PM, THE CIRCUIT COURT FOR FREDERICK COUNTY WILL BEGIN PHASE II AS OUTLINED IN THE MAY 22, 2020 ADMINISTRATIVE ORDER ON THE PROGRESSIVE RESUMPTION OF FULL FUNCTIONING OF JUDICIARY OPERATIONS.**

- (a) The office of the Clerk of Court remains CLOSED. Access to the Courthouse remains restricted with limited access through July 20, 2020, absent further order:
- (b) Essential court personnel shall be available to the public by telephone between the hours of 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 pm; and
- (c) In keeping with the urgency of the following mandatory matters and consistent with statutory requirements, such matters shall continue to be scheduled or heard, either in person or remotely pursuant to the Administrative Order on Remote Electronic Participation in Judicial Proceedings, June 18, 2018. (The court shall notify all participants necessary to the proceeding.)
- (d) In addition to the hearings outlined in Phase I of the May 22, 2020 Administrative Order regarding Resumption of Judiciary Operations, the Circuit Court will additionally hear, either in person or remotely, all matters outlined as Phase II in the Exhibit to the May 22<sup>nd</sup> Order referred to above, located on pages 5, 6 and 7, as well as any matter that can be scheduled, heard or resolved in accordance with section (i) of the May 22<sup>nd</sup> Administrative Order.
- (e) Consistent with the recommendations of the CDC, MDH, and local health departments, any person who seeks entrance to courts and judicial facilities shall be:
  - (1) subject to COVID-19 screening questions,
  - (2) subject to non-contact temperature checks where available,
  - (3) required to wear face masks or coverings,
  - (4) required to maintain social distancing, and
- (f) Any person may be denied entrance to or required to leave a court or judicial facility as a result of the screening process or as a result of refusing to comply with the requirements to wear a face mask or covering, or maintain social distancing:
  - (1) if, as a result of the screening process, such person shall be provided information regarding alternative means to address the purpose of that person's intended visit to the court, and
  - (2) if, as a result of refusing to comply with the requirements to wear a face mask or covering, or maintain social distancing, such person shall be required to leave the courthouse of facility; and.
- (g) Regardless of Phase, credentialed press shall be admitted to the courthouse and courtrooms (other than hearings that are closed to the public), subject to available capacity and in compliance with the guidance of the CDC and MDH; and
- (h) Regardless of the Phase, personnel shall report to work, in person or remotely, as required by their administrative judges, court administrators, clerk of courts, administrative clerks, and administrative heads of units of the Judiciary. An employee is unable to serve due to illness or otherwise, will be

excused consistent with applicable leave policies. Job duties, schedule, and the means of completing assigned work of any and all Judiciary employees may be adjusted or revised as necessary.

*John S. Seft*  
*June 8, 2020*