

IN THE SUPERIOR COURT, COUNTY OF GREENLEE
STATE OF ARIZONA

In the Matter of Greenlee County: AUTHORIZING LIMITATION OF COURT OPERATIONS DURING A PUBLIC HEALTH EMERGENCY	Amended Administrative Order No. 2020-01
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Due to concern for the spread of COVID-19 in the general population, the Governor of the State of Arizona has declared a statewide emergency pursuant to A.R.S. §26-303 and in accordance with A.R.S. §26-301(15). Although the courts in Greenlee County remain open for business, cooperation by the Judicial Branch is essential to reducing the risk associated with this public health emergency. The Arizona Supreme Court has instructed Presiding Superior Court Judges to take steps to reduce the number of people entering courthouses. Administrative Order No. 2020-48. The philosophy of the Court in ordering these steps for all court hearings is to first eliminate the incidence of social contact or in the alternative to minimize said social contact as allowed by law and in accordance with the Chief Justice's Administrative Order No. 2020-48.

This order applies to all civil, criminal, juvenile, probate and family court-proceedings.

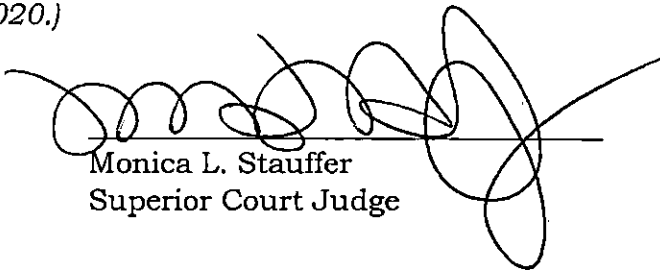
THEREFORE, IT IS ORDERED, effective immediately until otherwise ordered, the following procedures will be in place for all courts in Greenlee County.

1. All parties/witnesses to a case will appear telephonically for any hearing unless the Judge issues an order for a party/witness to appear in person. The exception to this is a defendant appearing in person for sentencing. Parties may file a motion for in-person hearing and upon order of the court, a telephonic hearing may be held in person.
2. If the defendant is in custody of the jail and would like to appear in person, defense counsel is responsible for contacting the jail and arranging for their client to be transported as requested. Video conferencing will be utilized as feasible during the calendar for the courts. Self-represented defendants in criminal cases will appear telephonically or by video-conference if available, unless the court orders their appearance. If a defendant is ordered to appear or appear telephonically and fails to do so, a warrant may be issued for the defendant's arrest.

3. Counsel, all self-represented parties, and defendants may appear telephonically for all Pre-Trial Conferences and Change of Plea proceedings unless the agreed sentence involves a term of jail or prison in which case the defendant must appear in person. A judge may issue an order requesting counsel or a party to appear either by telephone or in person if extenuating circumstances exist.
4. The court will explore expanded video conferencing options as soon as possible and will notify parties when and if that becomes available. As these options become available, the courts will contact the parties to let them know of the process to facilitate appearing by video-conference. If a document must be signed by multiple parties and a defendant who is in custody, the defendant will sign their copy and have it filed or emailed to the court. The remaining parties/counsel shall sign the filed/emailed copy. The jail will send over the copy signed by the defendant which will be attached to the document signed by the other parties/counsel. That document shall constitute the original signed document.
5. Any individuals who have a fever, cough, or shortness of breath will not be allowed to enter the courthouse. They will be directed to call their lawyer or the court to request further information.
6. Customers wishing to make payments for court fines/fees are asked to please mail in their payments, make their payment online, pay at a PayNearMe vendor or call the court to make other arrangements for payment. Parties filing a new non-criminal case or a case subject to a filing fee must pay the filing fee to the Greenlee County Clerk's Office with a check, money order or pay online.
7. The courts will limit all in-person proceedings to attorneys, parties, victims, witnesses, court personnel, and other necessary persons, where necessary to maintain the recommended social distancing within a court facility. Non-essential parties will not be allowed to enter the courtroom to observe those proceedings unless there are fewer than 10 people in the courtroom and in the discretion of the court, all individuals can remain safe.
8. Judges and court staff will continue to use all reasonable alternatives to in-person court hearings and any court-ordered programs to decrease or eliminate person to person contact. Settlement conferences and mediations shall be conducted in compliance with eliminating or decreasing social contact.
9. The Clerk of Superior Court in Greenlee County may temporarily accept pleadings and filings via email. After the case is opened in the court system, copies will be mailed to the filing party who is thereafter responsible for distribution/service to other parties.

10. A party who is ordered to appear for a telephonic or video hearing may email to the clerk's office documentary evidence they wish to use for the court's determination.
11. Passport applications are suspended at the Greenlee County Clerk's Office until further order of the court.
12. **The parental visitation exchange program and the supervised parenting program is suspended until further order of the court.**

DATED this 24th March 2020.
(Amended 31st day of March 2020.)



Monica L. Stauffer
Superior Court Judge