

NORTH CAROLINA  
GASTON COUNTY

IN THE GENERAL COURT OF JUSTICE  
DISTRICT COURT DIVISION

FILED

2020 MAR 16 A 8:21

IN RE:

CORONAVIRUS )  
(COVID-19) )

CLERK OF COURT, C.C.C.

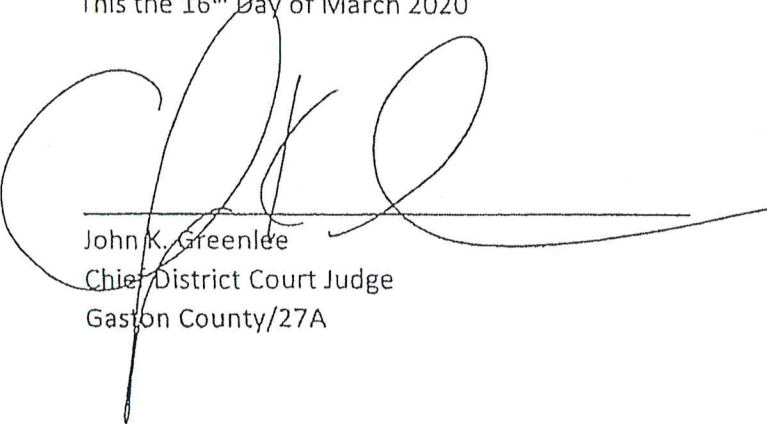
ADMINISTRATIVE ORDER

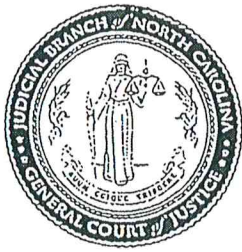
The undersigned Chief District Court Judge for Judicial District 27A-Gaston County enters this administrative order pursuant to the Emergency Directives issued by Chief Justice Cheri Beasley of the North Carolina Supreme Court in response to the coronavirus COVID-19 pandemic.

IT IS THEREFORE ORDERED that:

1. All District Courts are closed for 30 days (until 04/16/2020) with the exceptions as detailed in the attached Addendum A.\*
2. For Good and Extraordinary Cause all probable cause hearings scheduled under 15A-606 are continued until after 04-16-2020.
3. This order shall expire when the emergency directive expires (04-16-2020) or upon further order of the Court.

This the 16<sup>th</sup> Day of March 2020

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
John K. Greenlee  
Chief District Court Judge  
Gaston County/27A



JOHN K. GREENLEE  
CHIEF DISTRICT COURT JUDGE  
JUDICIAL DISTRICT 27A  
325 DR. MARTIN LUTHER KING JR. WAY  
GASTONIA, NC 28052-2331  
O 704-852-3117 | F 704-852-3131

DISTRICT COURT JUDGES  
RICHARD B. ABERNETHY  
CRAIG R. COLLINS  
ANGELA G. HOYLE  
JAMES A. JACKSON  
MICHAEL K. LANDS  
PENNIE M. THROWER

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Based on the Emergency Directives issued by Chief Justice Cheri Beasley in response to the Coronavirus (COVID-19) pandemic, Gaston County District Courts will be on the following schedule:

Courtroom 3A(criminal)- CLOSED  
Courtroom 3B(traffic)- CLOSED  
Courtroom 3C(civil/domestic)- CLOSED  
Courtroom 3D(juvenile/truancy)- CLOSED  
Courtroom 4A (criminal and child support)- CLOSED  
Courtroom 2E (domestic and TPR's)-OPEN to hear limited cases\*  
Courtroom 2D (DVPOs and Jail 1<sup>st</sup> Apps)- OPEN on a normal schedule\*  
Courtroom 2A (magistrate 1<sup>st</sup> Apps nonjail)- CLOSED  
Courtroom 2B (Small Claims)- CLOSED

All cases that are continued shall be scheduled no sooner than April 16, 2020. The district attorney's office will be responsible for rescheduling the criminal/traffic and juvenile delinquency/undisciplined cases. DSS will be responsible for rescheduling child support and Abuse/Neglect/Dependency Cases. Domestic Attorneys or the parties themselves will be responsible for rescheduling domestic matters heard in 3C and 2E. The attorneys or parties can obtain an order continuing the case from a judge to avoid having to pay additional fees. The District Court Judges Office will be responsible for continuing civil cases and TPR's. The assigned magistrates will be responsible for rescheduling magistrate nonjail 1<sup>st</sup> Apps and Small Claims.

\*Courtroom 2D will operate on a normal daily schedule to handle Domestic Violence Protective Orders, No Contact Orders and Jail 1<sup>st</sup> Appearances by video. Temporarily, 1<sup>st</sup> Appearances for Defendants with felony charges who have been released from custody will be scheduled for 2PM in 2D.

\*Courtroom 2E will operate daily to handle those matters not heard in 2D. These include, but are not limited to, A/N/D nonsecure custody hearings, juvenile detention hearings, emergency custody hearings, hearings for inmates who wish to enter a plea that will process them out of our jail or are being held for child support and any other matters determined to be an emergency or necessary to preserve the right of due process. Civil commitment hearings will be conducted remotely through electronic means. Marriages will still be conducted by the assigned magistrate. District Court Judges will be available for any emergency matters or to obtain signatures on necessary legal filings and orders.

All proceedings held in District Court will be conducted under conditions that protect the health and safety of all participants. Depending on the progression of the coronavirus this schedule may be modified later if health and safety demands. This memo does not affect any functions under the jurisdiction of the Clerk of Court.

Addendum A