<u>Durham County District Criminal Court</u> <u>COVID-19 Protocol Effective June 1, 2020</u>

- 1. A maximum of 40 Defendants per session—morning and afternoon—may be calendared. All other matters shall be continued beyond July 31, 2020.
- 2. The District Attorney's Office will calendar cases based on requests; available seating; and restrictions to the number of Defendants.
- 3. When docket numbers permit, Defendants whose last names are from A to L will report to Courtroom 4D and Defendants whose last names are from M to Z will report to Courtroom 4C.
- 4. All cases involving in-custody Defendants will be heard virtually in Courtroom 4C
- 5. The Durham County Sheriff's Office will maintain order and ensure that the maximum number of persons, including courtroom personnel, allowed in each courtroom, does not exceed local, county and state public health guidelines.
- 6. The maximum occupancy for each courtroom will be prominently posted at each courtroom entrance.
- 7. The Durham County Sheriff's Office will designate seating areas for the public in order to ensure compliance with social distancing guidelines.
- 8. The Durham County Clerk's Office will publicly post the docket on Juno.
- 9. Everyone in the courtroom must practice social distancing. All parties must wear a mask or face covering, and use hand sanitizer, when available. Gloves are also encouraged.
- 10. All witnesses shall affirm, in lieu of an oath, prior to testifying before the Court.
- 11. Only necessary parties in the case being heard are allowed in the well of the courtroom.
- 12. No one is to approach the bench or the clerk without prior permission from the Court.
- 13. Through September 2020, the Court will waive the \$20.00 installment fee for Defendants if they are unable to pay on their court date.

This day of May, 2020

Pat Evans

Chief District Court Judge