

NORTH CAROLINA

FILED IN THE GENERAL COURT OF JUSTICE

ONslow COUNTY

SUPERIOR/ DISTRICT COURT DIVISIONS

2020 MAR 24 P 4: 06

IN RE:

ONslow CO., C.S.C.

CORONAVIRUS (COVID-19) UB ADMINISTRATIVE ORDER

The undersigned Senior Resident Court Judge, Chief District Court Judge and Onslow County Clerk of Superior Court enter this administrative order in response to Governor Roy Cooper declaring a state of emergency on March 10, 2020 and Chief Justice Cheri Beasley on March 13, 2020 declaring under N.C.G.S. § 7A-39(b)(2) that catastrophic conditions exist from a public health threat.

It appearing to the undersigned that on March 10, 2020, Governor Cooper declared a state of emergency and recognized that the North Carolina Department of Health and Health Services recommends that people at high risk of severe illness from COVID-19 avoid large groups of people as much as possible and all others take necessary steps to reduce the spread of infection.

And it further appearing to the undersigned that on March 13, 2020 Chief Justice Cheri Beasley declared that catastrophic conditions exist in all counties of this state and directives need to be established to reduce the spread of infection. As a result the Chief Justice ordered that superior court and district court proceedings be postponed for thirty days.

And it further appearing to the court that Article 1, Section 18 of the North Carolina Constitution provides that "All courts shall be open; every person for an injury done him in his lands, goods, person, or reputation shall have remedy by due course of law; and right and just shall be administered without favor, denial, or delay."

Consistent with the Chief Justice's order, it is ordered that court proceedings will be continued until at least April 13, 2020 with limited exceptions which are specified in the following paragraphs.

Court offices in Onslow County courthouses will remain open for the transaction of business.

Chief Justice Beasley has ordered pursuant to N.C.G.S. § 7A-39(b)(1) that all pleadings, motions, notices, and other documents and papers that were or are due to be filed in any county of this state on or after 16 March 2020 and before the close of business on 17 April 2020 in civil actions, criminal actions, estates, and special proceedings shall be deemed to be timely filed if they are filed before the close of business on 17 April 2020.

Further, she ordered that all other acts that were or are due to be done in any county of this state on or after 16 March 2020 and before the close of business on 17 April 2020 in civil actions, criminal actions, estates, and special proceedings shall be deemed to be timely done if they are done before the close of business on 17 April 2020.

Online court services are available at www.nccourts.org for handling some court matters, including citation services, paying your ticket, court payments, signing up for court date notifications and reminders, eFiling court documents for certain courts and case types.

For more information go to www.nccourts.org, www.onslow.org/coronavirus, www.cdc.gov, or ncdhhs.gov.

CLERK OF SUPERIOR COURT:

- Normal office hours will be maintained to accept filings subject to changes due to evolving circumstances.
- In-person meetings will be postponed or cancelled to the fullest extent possible or remote technologies will be utilized as authorized by law and to the fullest extent possible.
- Subject to health precautions, involuntary commitment hearings, guardianship hearings, and pressing estate administration matters will be conducted.
- Other matters before the clerk, such as foreclosures and other special proceedings will be postponed.
- If you have any questions these are the department phone numbers:
 - Bookkeeping: 478-3605
 - Estates/ special proceedings: 478-3604
 - Juvenile: 478-3680
 - Criminal Superior: 478-3606
 - Cashiers/ civil intake: 478-3629
 - Civil District/ small claims: 478-3603
 - Civil Superior: 478-3607
 - Child Support: 478-3608
 - District Criminal: 478-3602

MAGISTRATE AND SMALL CLAIMS:

- The magistrate's office located within the Sheriffs office at 717 Court Street, Jacksonville, N.C. will be open 24 hours per day, 7 days per week. Call 910-478-3619 for additional information. Before you attempt to see a magistrate, it is strongly recommended that you call the office first.
- All Small Claims Court proceedings are suspended, and pending matters will be continued and rescheduled.

DISTRICT COURT:

- First Appearances will be held every day of the week at 10:30 am in Courtroom #6.
- Domestic Violence Court will be held in Courtrooms #5 and #8 at 9:00 am. The cases will be divided between the two courtrooms so that we can limit the number of people in each space.
- Juvenile First Appearances and Secure Custody hearings will be held every Monday at 2:00 pm.
- New 50-B and 50-C motions will be heard every day at 11:00 am.
- On Tuesdays, only, we will address criminal matters that involve defendants that are in jail. These matters will be held in Courtroom #6.
- On Wednesdays, only, we will address Emergency Civil matters in Courtroom #5.
- On Thursdays, only, we will address Department of Social Services Nonsecure Custody hearings in Courtroom #5.
- Evolving circumstances may require modifications to this schedule. Before coming to the courthouse, it is advised that you call the department handling your matter.
- There may be changes in the location and times of these courts. Please review the hallway screens for modifications and updates.

SUPERIOR COURT:

- Normal office hours for both civil and criminal superior court offices will be maintained subject to changes due to evolving circumstances.
- Jury service has been suspended for all terms of superior court scheduled for March 23, March 30, and April 6. If a citizen has received a jury summons for those weeks, they do not need to call or report.

Criminal Superior Court:

- The cases docketed for the terms of court scheduled for March 16, March 23, March 30 and April 6 are continued and will be rescheduled. Defendants with attorneys are required to maintain frequent contact with their attorney to keep apprised of the rescheduling of their cases. Defendants without attorneys must contact the Clerk of Superior Court for criminal superior court to find out their new court date(s).
- Some cases of those defendants who are incarcerated may be scheduled for disposition by agreement between defendant's counsel and the District Attorney.
- Other court hearings, motions and appearances may be scheduled by the senior resident superior court judge as needed.

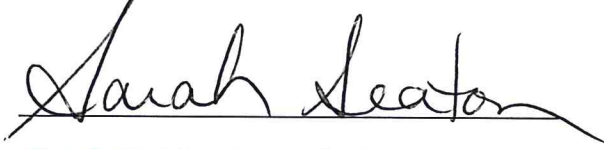
Civil Superior Court:

- The March 23rd term of civil superior court has been cancelled. Attorneys with motions and cases scheduled for that term will be rescheduled. To obtain new court dates, attorneys should contact the trial court administrator at 910-478-3734.
- Any jurors summoned for the March 23rd term of civil superior court do not need to call or report.
- Other court hearings, motions and appearances may be scheduled by the senior resident superior court judge as needed.

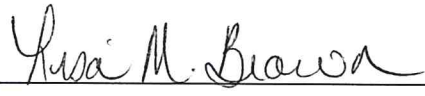
This the 22nd day of March, 2020.



Senior Resident Superior Court Judge



Chief District Court Judge



Clerk of Superior Court