



WAKE COUNTY COURTS PREPAREDNESS MEASURES FOR CORONAVIRUS

March 5, 2020

As the novel coronavirus (COVID-19) situation continues to evolve, officials in the Wake County Courts are collaborating with state and local agencies to ensure that local courts are prepared for the possible spread within our communities and resulting impacts on the local court system.

Officials in the Wake County Courts have been planning for continuity of operations in the event of a possible widespread outbreak of the novel coronavirus (COVID-19). The plan includes ensuring that core court functions can continue uninterrupted through tools such as video conference court hearings, encouraging employees who have symptoms of COVID-19 to stay home, supporting employees who need to stay home to care for a sick family member, and preparing for an increase in judicial responsibilities to assist in emergency pandemic control measures when deemed necessary by public health officials.

Wake County Court officials will continue to monitor the situation and consult the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) and Wake County Public Health for guidance in managing courthouse facilities if COVID-19 is suspected or present as we strive to protect the public and employees at courthouse facilities from unnecessary exposure to the virus.

The current risk of becoming infected with COVID-19 in North Carolina is still low. However, there are measures that you can and should take to avoid the transmission of a respiratory illness, such as COVID-19 and the flu. These include:

- Avoiding close contact with people who are sick
- Staying home if you are ill
- Washing your hands frequently with soap and water, for at least 20 seconds
- Cleaning and disinfecting surfaces that are frequently touched
- Avoiding touching your eyes, nose and mouth
- Covering your cough or sneeze with a tissue
- Discarding tissues after a single use
- Following the CDC's [Travel Health Notices](#)

For up-to-date information on COVID-19, visit the [CDC's website](#) and [Wake County's COVID-19 resource page](#).

Information regarding county courthouse advisories and closings, if issued, may be found on the North Carolina Judicial Branch website: <https://www.nccourts.gov/closings>.