



STATE OF MICHIGAN

8TH DISTRICT COURT

150 E. CROSSTOWN PARKWAY, KALAMAZOO, MI 49001
227 W. MICHIGAN AVENUE, KALAMAZOO, MI 49007
TELEPHONE: (269) 384-8171
www.kalcounty.com/courts/district

In response to the COVID-19 outbreak, the 8th District Court is joining efforts with our national, state and local governmental bodies to protect everyone in our community, including those who work in our courthouses, and the members of the public who enter our courthouses. Consistent with the directives and recommendations of the Governor, the Chief Justice of the Michigan Supreme Court, and Kalamazoo County Government, our Court is implementing the following changes to our business operations effective immediately:

The business offices of the 8th District Court at the Michigan Avenue Courthouse and the Crosstown Courthouse will be closed Monday, March 16 through Friday, April 10.

Non-emergency matters will be rescheduled or adjourned by the Court with notice provided to all parties at their last known address.

Parties needing to contact the Court concerning an emergency civil or criminal matter during this time of closure are directed to call (269) 384-8171.

CIVIL

- Landlord-Tenant hearings/trials scheduled to take place before April 12 will be rescheduled
- Civil jury trials scheduled to take place before April 30 will be rescheduled
- Civil bench trials scheduled to take place before April 30 will be rescheduled
- Small claims trials scheduled to take place before April 30 will be rescheduled
- Motion hearings in all general civil cases scheduled to take place before April 30 will be rescheduled

CODE ORDINANCE VIOLATIONS

- Hearings on contested code ordinance violations scheduled to take place before April 30 will be rescheduled

CRIMINAL

- Arraignments, pretrial conferences, and bench trials of non-custody defendants will be adjourned to a date no earlier than April 13
- Arraignments of in-custody defendants will proceed as scheduled
- Pretrial conferences and bench trials of in-custody defendants will be adjourned or scheduled to a date no earlier than April 13
- Jury trials for non-custody and in-custody defendants will be adjourned or scheduled to a date no earlier than April 13
- Financial show cause hearings scheduled to take place before April 30 will be rescheduled



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PROBATION

- Probation reporting will occur by email, phone or video conference, or as directed by the Court

TRAFFIC CITATIONS

- Formal and informal hearings in contested civil infraction actions scheduled to take place before April 30 will be rescheduled

WEDDINGS

- Weddings scheduled to take place before April 30 will be rescheduled

COURTHOUSE OPERATIONS

- The Michigan Avenue and Crosstown Courthouses are not open to the public, however staff will be available to serve the public via telephone (269) 384-8171 or email dcadministration@kalcounty.com. Filings to the Court should be made through the U.S. Mail or private delivery service. If a party has a time-sensitive filing that requires immediate deliver in hard copy, they should contact the clerk's office at (269) 384-8171. Payments to the Court will continue to be accepted by mail, by phone at (269) 384-8171, and online at https://www.kalcounty.com/courts/district/payment_information.htm.
- If you have the symptoms of an acute respiratory illness, and you are a party or witness in a hearing, or have any business at the courthouses, please read this notice:

The CDC recommends that individuals who have symptoms of acute respiratory illness stay home until they recover and are free of fever (100.4° F or greater using an oral thermometer), signs of a fever, and any other symptoms for at least 24 hours, without the use of fever-reducing or other symptom-altering medicines (e.g. cough suppressants). Signs of acute respiratory illness include:

Congestion

Runny nose

Sore throat

Fever

Body aches

Fatigue

If you have a pending court hearing, and you have symptoms of acute respiratory illness, please contact your lawyer and inform your lawyer of your illness so that a continuance can be sought. If you do not have an attorney and you have symptoms of acute respiratory illness, please call (269) 384-8171, Monday through Friday, 8:00 AM to 4:30 PM. If possible, please have your case number and court date available when you call.

If you are a witness in a hearing, and you have symptoms of acute respiratory illness, please contact the attorney or party that subpoenaed you and inform them of your illness so that other arrangements can be made to accommodate you.



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Please note, the Court's business operations during this time of health crisis are subject to abrupt change. Notices of changes will be publicized to local media, appear on the Court's website and Facebook page, and posted at the courthouses.

Those with questions concerning court operations should contact the clerk's office at (269) 384-8171.

We appreciate the cooperation, patience and understanding of all parties as we do our part to safeguard the health and safety of our community.

March 16, 2020

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads 'Christopher T. Haenicke'.

Christopher T. Haenicke

Chief Judge

8th District Court