

Municipal and Traffic Court of New Orleans

State of Louisiana

SECOND AMENDMENT TO COURT'S ORDER OF MARCH 16, 2020
REGARDING COVID-19

Acting in accordance with Louisiana Constitution Article V, Section 1; pursuant to La. R.S. 1:55; and the inherent power of this Court, and considering the recent outbreak of Coronavirus Disease 2019 (COVID-19) in Louisiana, Governor John Bel Edwards's declaration of a public health emergency in Executive Department Proclamation Nos. JBE 2020-25 and JBE 2020-27 as well as Executive Department Proclamation No. JBE 2020-52, extending the Stay at Home Order through May 15, 2020, President Donald Trump's declaration of a national emergency on March 13, 2020, and Orleans Parish Mayor LaToya Cantrell's April 15, 2020, Proclamation to Further Promulgate Emergency Orders During the State of Emergency Due to Covid-19 (No. 2020-03129), the Louisiana Supreme Court's Orders of April 6, 2020, April 22, 2020, and April 29, 2020, this Court's previous Orders of March 16, 2020, and April 30, 2020, and, further, in consideration of public health recommendations to reduce the risk of exposure to the virus and slow the spread of the disease while balancing the need to maintain access to Louisiana courts, the Administrative Judge, acting on behalf of the Judges of the Municipal and Traffic Court of New Orleans,

HEREBY ORDERS THAT:

The Municipal and Traffic Court of New Orleans will remain closed to the public until 8:00 a.m. on Monday, June 1, 2020, and will:

- 1. Suspend the requirement to report to the Municipal and Traffic Court of New Orleans throughout the Court's closure;**
- 2. Reset all trials and hearings scheduled during the Court's closure, with all defendants to receive new notices via U.S. Mail;**
- 3. Continue to conduct first appearances for all inmates via video conferencing relative to probable cause determinations, bail settings, and other first appearance settings;**
- 4. Continue Web and Interactive Voice Recognition (IVR) capabilities, payments for which can be made by visiting our website at www.nola.gov/traffic-court/or by calling 504-658-8500; and**
- 5. Not issue any attachments or suspend driver's licenses for matters set during the Court's closure.**

The Municipal and Traffic Court of New Orleans will reopen at 8:00 a.m. on Monday, June 1, 2020, on a limited basis and in accordance with Phase One COVID-19 guidelines as follows:

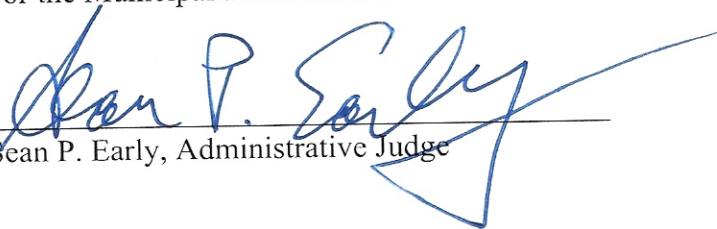
- 1. Individuals seeking entry into the courthouse will be pre-screened. Pre-screening shall include taking of temperatures by a medical professional and responding to a basic health interview. Be prepared to wait in outdoor accommodations before entry into the courthouse.**
- 2. Only noticed defendants with a scheduled court appearance and individuals otherwise authorized by a judge shall be allowed into the courthouse.**
- 3. All individuals entering the courthouse shall be required to wear a mask which covers the nose and mouth. Those who report without a mask will be provided a mask while supplies last.**
- 4. All matters within the courthouse shall be conducted so as to limit the number of people in a courtroom or hallway to 25% capacity and to allow for six feet of distancing between people.**
- 5. Hallways and corridors shall be clear and are to be used for access only. Social distancing shall be observed.**

6. Criminal matters involving incarcerated defendants shall continue to proceed via video conference.
7. Criminal defense attorneys are encouraged to waive their client's presence for all stages of the proceeding that would not require a defendant's appearance.

This Order will remain in effect until further notice. If the conditions indicate that the Court needs to adjust the above policy, notice will be posted on the Court's website (<http://www.nola.gov/traffic-court/>), the Louisiana Supreme Court website (www.lasc.org), and in the news media.

New Orleans, Louisiana this 15th day of May, 2020

For the Municipal and Traffic Court of New Orleans


Sean P. Early, Administrative Judge