

NEWAYGO COUNTY TRIAL COURTS

PRESS RELEASE



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

Contact: Wendy Jarvis, Trial Court Director/FOC wjarvis@co.newaygo.mi.us

NEWAYGO COUNTY – The Newaygo County Courthouse is open at this time. However, we will be taking measures to limit exposures in the courthouse due to an ongoing upward trajectory for documented cases of COVID-19 and for positive tests in Newaygo County. Consistent with Michigan Supreme Court directives the Newaygo County Trial Courts must take every measure possible to protect the public and court personnel. If your business with the court can be handled via phone, fax, mail or email, please use those methods before coming to the courthouse at this time. The public will be permitted into the building for in-person emergency and essential hearings or hearings where litigants have right to be present. Emergency or essential functions involve the health, safety and Constitutional rights of the citizens of Newaygo County. If you make a visit to the Courthouse during this time staff may inquire about your business and provide guidance to limit exposures within the courthouse. Courthouse visitors permitted into the building for emergency and/or essential matters will continue to:

- Complete a health screening and have their temperature taken prior to entry.
- Wear a mask while in the building.
- Adhere to six-foot social distancing markers in lobbies, hallways and courtrooms.
- Be prepared to wait outside, or in an alternate area, as advised by staff if common areas are too crowded until building occupancy is down and social distancing can be maintained safely.
- Utilize hand sanitizer and disinfectant wipes to cleanse hands public areas for their protection.

Hearings that are not emergencies, deemed essential or where litigants have the right to be present will be conducted remotely via Zoom or teleconference as directed. During this time, it is preferred that filings be mailed, faxed, or emailed to the courthouse whenever possible. Please feel free to contact the correct court using the following information for more details on how to submit a filing electronically or if you require assistance with a remote hearing. Court sessions will continue to be livestreamed via YouTube to provide public access. Please visit countyofnewaygo.com to find the Departments tab where the Courts tab is located.

Please see the complete Local Administrative Order for Phase 2 for more complete details or contact the appropriate court using the information below:

Circuit Court

Email: wjarvis@co.newaygo.mi.us or circuitcourt@newaygo.mi.us

Phone: (231) 689-7251

Main Phone: (231) 689-7252

Fax: (231) 689-7015

District Court

Email: dmr@co.newaygo.mi.us

Phone: (231) 689-7228

Main Phone: (231) 689-7257

Fax (231) 689-7258

Probate Court

Email: c2762nmp@co.newaygo.mi.us

Phone: (231) 689-7274

Main: (231) 689-7270

Fax: (231) 689-7276

Safety for the public and those working in the courthouse are of the utmost concern to the courts. **We remain fully staffed within the courthouse at this time to assist you.** We look forward to being able to expand access again soon once the number of COVID-19 cases in the community goes down.

Hon. Robert D. Springstead

Chief Judge

Circuit Court Judge

Newaygo County Trial Courts

