

NEWAYGO COUNTY TRIAL COURTS

PRESS RELEASE



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

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

NEWAYGO COUNTY – Due to the continued increase in COVID-19 cases in Newaygo County the Newaygo County Courthouse has taken additional steps for the safety of employees and the public we serve. The Newaygo County Courthouse continues to be open to the public however, we ask the public to avoid handling their court business in person to the greatest extent possible. All filings and payments can be done electronically or mailed. We ask that the public only handle their court business in person in cases of emergency. In-person hearings are limited to emergency matters and matters where there is a statutory or constitutional right to be present that has not been waived. The safety of the community is crucial during this time. Consistent with Michigan Supreme Court directives the Newaygo County Trial Courts must take every measure possible to protect the public and court personnel while still providing creative and alternative ways to access the court.

If your business with the court can be handled via phone, fax, mail or email, please use those methods before coming to the courthouse. Additionally, we encourage you to call prior to making a trip to determine if your business can be handled remotely. If you visit the courthouse you may be given alternative directions to access the courts if your need is not an emergency or a matter for which you have the right to be present.

Courthouse visitors permitted into the building will continue to follow the current visitor screening process including the completion of a health screening and temperature assessment. By order of the court, masks must be worn in the courthouse unless otherwise directed by the presiding judge. Visitors who are unable or unwilling to wear masks maybe be provided with alternative methods for conducting their court business and may be asked to leave the courthouse. Visitors must continue to abide by social distancing guidelines while at the courthouse as well.

All other hearings that are not emergencies or matters where litigants have the right to be present will be conducted remotely via Zoom or teleconference as directed on hearing notices. Many court functions can be handled remotely. It is preferred that filings be mailed, faxed, or emailed to the courthouse whenever possible. Please find contact information for each Court below. Court sessions will not be open to the public. All court sessions will continue to be livestreamed, or recorded and posted to 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 1 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

Although we have had to restrict certain accesses the courthouse remains staffed and ready to assist you. The courthouse is experiencing staff shortages at this time, so it is possible that you may experience delays in some departments. We appreciate the public's patience with any delays. Thank you for adhering to these new guidelines so we can continue to prioritize the health and safety of our community.

Hon. Robert D. Springstead
Chief Judge
Circuit Court Judge
Newaygo County Trial Courts

