

STATE OF WISCONSIN CIRCUIT COURT WINNEBAGO COUNTY

ORDER REGARDING EMERGENCY TEMPORARY MEASURES 20GF397

The Winnebago County Circuit Court is issuing the orders described below to provide procedures and directions for proceedings and essential functions in the Winnebago County Court during the next several weeks. **These Orders are Emergency and Temporary Measures ONLY effective from March 18, 2020, until June 10, 2020, or upon further Order of the Court.** The County courthouse remains open and any change in status will be noticed on the County Circuit Court website co.winnebago.wi.us and the Wisconsin Court system website, wicourts.gov.

The World Health Organization declared a global pandemic of COVID-19 due to widespread human infection worldwide. We are monitoring this situation and are committed to open access to our courts and services to the public, and to protect the health and safety of the litigants, judges, court staff and security, attorneys, jurors, victims, other participants in court proceedings, and all other persons in the court facilities.

These orders are in place to ensure the continuous performance of the court's essential functions and operations and yet seek to mitigate the risk that our employees, lawyers, litigants, and jurors will be exposed. The orders incorporate use of videoconferencing and teleconferencing to minimize contact, when appropriate; follow social distancing practices; and temporarily suspend some non-essential court functions.

The Winnebago County Circuit Court **HEREBY ORDERS:**

1. Effective March 18, 2020, until June 10, 2020, pending further order of the Court as deemed appropriate and necessary by changing conditions, the following rules apply.
2. For all court activities, parties are directed to utilize teleconference, video conference, or other alternate methods to the extent possible and not contrary to the law.
3. The following court activities will continue as scheduled and as required by law unless otherwise directed by the court including:
 - a. Bail hearings for arrested individual charged with crimes
 - b. Time limit sensitive hearings in juvenile cases
 - c. Emergency detention hearings and Chapter 51,54, and 55 trials
 - d. Restraining order hearings
 - e. Criminal jury trials subject to speedy trial demands
 - f. Any other time sensitive hearings required by law
4. All other court activities will be scheduled and conducted as prescribed by the assigned court.
5. Court facilities shall remain open and the Court will continue to accept filings. Litigants are encouraged to file pleadings and other documents electronically when possible. Members of the bar and the public are discouraged from making non-essential visits to court facilities.

TEMPORARY AND EMERGENCY GUIDELINES FOR SPECIFIC CASE TYPES

PROBATE

All probate hearings will be coordinated by telephone.

SMALL CLAIMS

1. Local Court Rules that require in person appearances are **SUSPENDED** until further notice. Telephone or video/teleconferencing appearances are encouraged.
2. Small Claims money judgment cases will be adjourned 60 days or until further notice.
3. Evictions, garnishments, and replevins remain as scheduled unless agreed or otherwise directed by the court.

WEDDINGS

Courthouse weddings are canceled for 60 days or until further notice.

FAMILY

FAMILY COURT SERVICES (FCS),

Partners in Parenting (PIP) and Parent Education Group (PEG)

1. Partners in Parenting (PIP) and Parent Education Group (PEG) groups are canceled until further notice
2. FCS may allow mediation by phone contact, mediators to coordinate.
3. The Local Court Rules that require custody studies be completed within 90 days or 120 days with court approval are tolled until further notice.

FAMILY COURT COMMISSIONER

1. All family hearings before Court Commissioner Bermingham and Family Court Commissioner Krueger will be coordinated by telephone unless in person approved by commissioner
2. The Commissioners reserve the right to reschedule hearings if telephone appearances are not feasible.
3. Initial appearances for Child Support Agency, paternities will be heard by telephone. Testing dates will be determined based on dates available to Child Support Agency and the nurse.
4. This does not apply to injunction hearings at the Commissioner level, which will be heard in person unless otherwise directed.

For questions or requests on individual cases, contact the assigned court at:

Br 1, Judge Basiliere contact Tracey Schneider at 920-236-4808 or

tracey.schneider@wicourts.gov

Br 2, Judge Woldt contact Kari Florek at 920-236-4828 or kari.florek@wicourts.gov

Br 3, Judge Key contact Vickie Belkye at 920-236-4835 or vickie.belkye@wicourts.gov

Br 4, Judge Seifert contact Tara Berry at 920-236-4868 or tara.berry@wicourts.gov

Br 5, Judge Jorgensen contact Lisa Wolff at 920-236-4866 or lisa.wolff@wicourts.gov

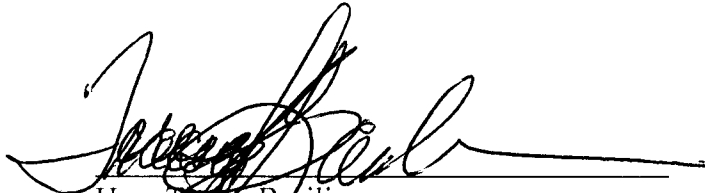
Br 6, Judge Bissett contact Kim Stone at 920-236-4912 or kim.stone@wicourts.gov

Ct. Com Keberlein contact Missy Woldt at 920-236-4955 or missy.woldt@wicourts.gov

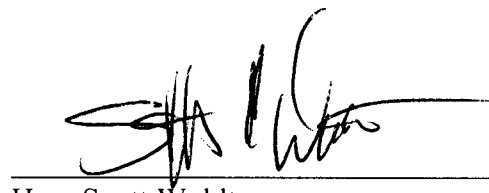
Ct Com Bermingham contact Sara Moyle at 920-236-4768 or sara.moyle@wicourts.gov

FCC Krueger contact Pamela Wiley at 920-236-4792 or pamela.willey@wicourts.gov

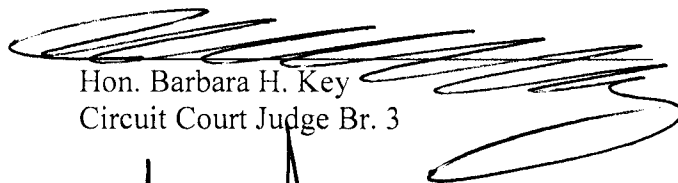
Dated this 17th day of March, 2020.



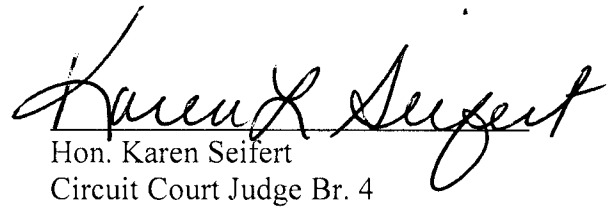
Hon. Teresa Basiliere
Circuit Court Judge Br. 1



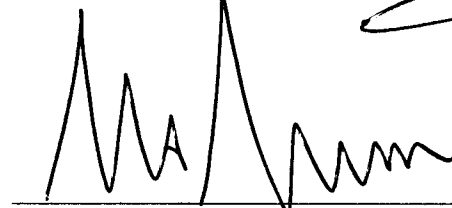
Hon. Scott Woldt
Circuit Court Judge Br. 2



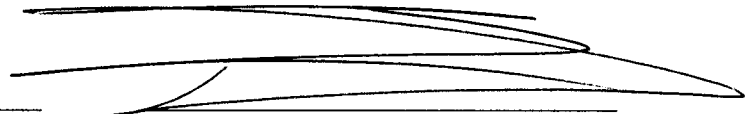
Hon. Barbara H. Key
Circuit Court Judge Br. 3



Hon. Karen Seifert
Circuit Court Judge Br. 4



Hon. John Jorgensen
Circuit Court Judge Br. 5



Hon. Daniel Bissett
Circuit Court Judge Br. 6