THE DISTRICT COURT SHALL BE RESTRICTED TO EMERGENCY OPERATIONS AND CLOSED MARCH 17, 2020 THROUGH JUNE 5, 2020, SUBJECT TO THE FOLLOWING IMPORTANT INFORMATION:

Pursuant to Chief Judge Barbera's Administrative Order of March 16, 2020, closing state courthouses to the public on an emergency basis, the following information is provided.

In accord with the recommendations of the Centers for Disease Control (CDC), this court seeks to limit the level, duration and quality of contact among persons who frequent this Court. To that end, all persons who enter this Courthouse are encouraged to practice good hygiene, by frequently washing their hands, keeping an appropriate distance from others and – in the case of employees – keeping work stations, keyboards and phones clean. Commonly used surfaces should be cleaned on a regular basis.

Only the below mandatory matters will be heard, either in-person or remotely, beginning March 17, 2020, as follows:

District Court shall handle:

Bail reviews/bench warrants
Emergency evaluation petitions
Quarantine and isolation violations
Body attachments

District Court Commissioners shall handle the following matters:

New extreme risk protective order petitions
New domestic violence protective petitions
New peace order petitions
Initial appearances
Applications for statement of charges
Acceptance of bail bonds
Bench warrant satisfactions

Search warrants will be handled electronically to the greatest extent possible. Duty judges will be responsible to cover search warrants for a specified time. All other trials, motions or hearings scheduled between March 17, 2020 through June 5, 2020 are continued. You will receive notice of any new dates by mail.

The Clerks' office will not be interacting with members of the public or attorneys, except by telephone. All court filings shall be mailed or placed in the court's drop box, located inside the Courthouse during the court's hours of operation. The clerks' office telephone numbers are 410-260-1370 (Criminal/Traffic Department) and 410-260-1800 (Civil Department). The Office of Public Defender's telephone number is 410-295-8800 and the Office of the State's Attorney's telephone number is 410-222-6085. The Self-Help Center call center is 410-260-1392.

Judges, essential personnel, and those entities that have office space within the courthouse may access the courthouse. Any other user of the courthouse who frequently appears on behalf of a government agency who is not on the list above should contact the Administrative Judge.

Please check back frequently for updates or revisions.