



**DISTRICT COURT OF MARYLAND**  
District One

**ADMINISTRATIVE ORDER ON  
STATEWIDE CLOSING OF THE COURTS WITH LIMITED  
EXCEPTIONS – EMERGENCY OPERATIONS  
DUE TO THE COVID-19 EMERGENCY**

WHEREAS, further rapid escalation of the COVID-19 emergency requires more comprehensive measures to protect the health and safety of Maryland residents and Judiciary personnel,

Mary Ellen Barbera, Chief Judge of the Court of Appeals and administrative head of the Judicial Branch, of the Maryland Constitution, ordered on the 16<sup>th</sup> day of March 2020:

**All courts in the Maryland Judiciary**, court offices, administrative offices, units of the Judiciary, and the Offices of the Clerks of the Circuit Courts and the clerks' offices of the District Court **shall be closed beginning on March 17, 2020, now extended thru June 5, 2020**, and restricted to limited operations or until further order of the Chief Judge of the Court of Appeals.

Each County and Baltimore City shall have sufficient judges to hear the emergency matters listed in the Order each weekday during this period.

Essential personnel, as identified by administrative judges, court administrators, clerks of courts, administrative clerks, administrative heads of units of the Judiciary, **shall report as required**.

**District Court matters to be heard include** but are not limited to: (a) bail reviews/bench warrants (b) emergency evaluation petitions (c) quarantine and isolation violations.

**District Court Commissioners shall handle the following matters:** (a) new extreme risk protective order petitions (b) new domestic violence protective petitions (c) new peace order petitions (d) initial appearances (e) applications for statement of charges (f) acceptance of bail bonds (g) bench warrant satisfactions

You may be allowed to enter a court building if you are (1) a PARTY or LAWYER for any of the proceedings listed above, (2) a properly credentialed member of the media, (3) personnel of an agency with offices in the building.