

# **HON. LISA GORCYCA – COVID-19 EMERGENCY PROTOCOL**

## **PREVIOUSLY SCHEDULED HEARINGS**

Please be assured that a member of my staff will be in contact with you or your attorney regarding your hearing. You will be notified with ample time whether your hearing is adjourned or will take place via Zoom. There is no need to call or email staff with questions regarding dates.

## **COURTROOM PROCEEDINGS**

The court is conducting most proceedings via Zoom video and audio conferences. Please refer to the appropriate section below for information regarding whether matters may proceed via Zoom.

## **FRIEND OF THE COURT MATTERS**

Please contact the Case Assistant for your assigned Referee if you have a question regarding a scheduled hearing before a Friend of the Court Referee.

REFEREE	CASE ASSISTANT	PHONE NUMBER
Ref. Harrington	Kim Rivard	(248) 858-0438
Ref. Weaver	Sharmeka May	(248) 858-0463
Ref. Savin	Roma Honer	(248) 452-2012

If you have questions regarding custody and/or parenting time during this state of emergency, please refer to the following link:

<https://courts.michigan.gov/Administration/SCAO/Resources/Documents/COVID-19/CustodyPT-FAQ.pdf>

If you are unable to find the answer to your question, please contact your assigned Custody and Parenting Time Specialist.

## **EMERGENCY MOTIONS**

Domestic cases may now utilize the e-filing system. Please see <https://www.oakgov.com/clerkrod/court-records/Pages/efiling.aspx> for e-filing details. If a given case has not already been added to the MiFile system, the Oakland County Clerks Offices can add the case to eFiling by requesting the addition via an email to [eFiling@oakgov.com](mailto:eFiling@oakgov.com)

Emergency motions may be submitted through the e-filing system. Once an emergency motion has been filed you should contact my staff attorney, Amanda Murley at [murleya@oakgov.com](mailto:murleya@oakgov.com) to ensure that your motion was received and is reviewed on an emergency basis.

Questions regarding the eFile system should be directed to [eFiling@oakgov.com](mailto:eFiling@oakgov.com). Specific questions regarding your emergency motion may be emailed to: [murleya@oakgov.com](mailto:murleya@oakgov.com) or [williamspr@oakgov.com](mailto:williamspr@oakgov.com).

## **PERSONAL PROTECTION ORDERS**

Petitions for personal protection orders are to be emailed to [PPO@oakgov.com](mailto:PPO@oakgov.com). Please see <https://www.oakgov.com/courts/circuit/family/ppo/Pages/default.aspx> for details.

## **DIVORCE – STATUTORY PROOFS**

Pending cases and cases with court dates during the COVID-19 emergency will be contacted by chambers to schedule a pro confesso/ statutory proofs hearing.

### **SCHEDULING CONFERENCES**

Scheduling orders may be completed remotely. You will be contacted by a clerk and given this option prior to your scheduled settlement conference date. The court retains its mediation requirement and suggests that parties proactively schedule mediation as soon as possible.

### **RETURN OF JUDGMENT**

All domestic cases are now able to utilize the eFiling system. Documents should be filed in this manner. For questions regarding eFiling please contact [eFiling@oakgov.com](mailto:eFiling@oakgov.com).

### **MOTIONS**

All non-emergency motions MUST include the email address of the filing party and opposing counsel or unrepresented litigants, or they will not be accepted.

Custody/ Parenting Time/ Child Support motions praeciped during the period these protocols are in effect will be referred to the Friend of the Court to conduct remote settlement conferences if appropriate. If the motion is not resolved during the remote settlement conference, you may repraecipe your motion for the following Wednesday to be heard before the Judge. If you have repraeciped your motion because you are unable to reach a settlement you must contact chambers staff to indicate you are repraecipeing, that you were unable to reach an agreement during your conference with the Friend of the Court, and that you are requesting oral argument via Zoom. Each motion will be reviewed and scheduled for oral argument on a CASE BY CASE BASIS. **Some motions will not be appropriate to hear via Zoom.**

If you wish to have a previously filed or newly-filed motion addressed by the court while these protocols are in effect you must praecipe your motion.

### **JUVENILE PROCEEDINGS**

The court will continue to hear matters as scheduled or review matters and issue orders, if appropriate. Parties seeking relief for juvenile matters shall follow the appropriate procedures on the Oakland County Circuit Court COVID-10 Court Information website ([www.oakgov.com/courts/circuit/resources/Pages/COVID-19-Court-Info.aspx](http://www.oakgov.com/courts/circuit/resources/Pages/COVID-19-Court-Info.aspx)).

### **TRIALS AND EVIDENTIARY HEARINGS**

Most matters can now be heard via Zoom. Exhibits (less than 100 pages) can be emailed to Judge Gorcyca's clerk at [williamspr@oakgov.com](mailto:williamspr@oakgov.com). Exhibits should be provided no later than 7 days prior to the scheduled hearing. If you have more than 100 pages of exhibits or have hard copies of exhibits you wish to provide to the Judge, please contact the judicial staff to schedule a time for drop off.

### **FURTHER QUESTIONS**

Further questions regarding your case may be emailed to:  
Staff Attorney, Amanda Murley: [murleya@oakgov.com](mailto:murleya@oakgov.com)  
Judicial Assistant, Ann Acheson: [achesona@oakgov.com](mailto:achesona@oakgov.com)  
Clerk, Portia Williams: [williamspr@oakgov.com](mailto:williamspr@oakgov.com).