

**IN THE COURT OF COMMON PLEAS, BLAIR COUNTY**  
**24<sup>TH</sup> JUDICIAL DISTRICT**

**IN RE: 24<sup>TH</sup> Judicial District –**

**DECLARATION OF JUDICIAL EMERGENCY**

**Supreme Court:**  
No. 20 WM 2020  
**Blair County No.:**  
No. 2020 MD 0003

**ADMINISTRATIVE ORDER**  
**MAGISTERIAL DISTRICT JUDGE COURTS**

**AND NOW**, this 24<sup>th</sup> day of November, 2020, in light of the increasing number of COVID-19 cases in Blair County and to ensure the safety of the public and Court employees, the following restrictions will be in place for the Blair County Magisterial District Courts from November 30, 2020, through December 11, 2020:

1. There shall be no walk-in case filings or fine payments.
2. Each Magisterial District Judge shall, when possible, conduct summary trials, hearings and conferences *via* Advanced Communication Technology (ACT) or, if preferable, continue said matters to a later date. ACT devices shall include, but are not limited to, BlueJeans, Skype, Zoom, Microsoft teams, telephone.
3. Barring extenuating circumstances, preliminary hearings shall only be held for incarcerated defendants.
4. The Magisterial District Courts shall continue to handle Emergency PFAs, search warrants, arrest warrants and preliminary arraignments *via* ACT, as determined by the Magisterial District Judge.
5. Each Magisterial District Judge has the discretion to hear or continue other non-emergency matters as best suits the needs of his or her Court.
6. Matters requiring an individual to appear in person shall be scheduled in advance by appointment at the discretion of the respective Blair County Magisterial District Judge.
7. All other aspects of this Court's previous administrative orders shall remain in effect.

BY THE COURT:

  
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Elizabeth Doyle, President Judge