

IN THE COURT OF COMMON PLEAS, BLAIR COUNTY
24TH JUDICIAL DISTRICT

INDEPENDENT
CLERK OF COURTS
CLERK OF ORPHANS COURT

2020 APR 13 AM 8:41

FILED
BLAIR COUNTY
ROBIN G. PATTON

IN RE: 24TH Judicial District –

DECLARATION OF JUDICIAL EMERGENCY

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

NOTICE OF COMPLIANCE: JUVENILE FACILITIES

AND NOW, this 9th day of April, 2020, this court having received the Supreme Court's directive¹ to engage with all relevant County stakeholders to review immediately the current capabilities of residential placements of juveniles within their counties in light of the spread of COVID-19, the court hereby **GIVES NOTICE** that it has taken the following actions:

1. On April 8, 2020 the court met by conference call with stakeholders, including the chief of Blair County juvenile probation, the deputy chief of Blair County juvenile probation, the assistant district attorney assigned to juvenile cases and the public defender assigned to juvenile cases.

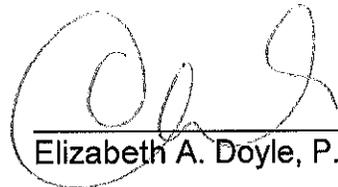
¹ *In In Re: the petition of C. Z., A. O., And Z. S. – W.*, 24 EM 2020, April 7, 2020.

2. The parties specifically addressed residential placements both inside and outside of Blair County, where Blair County juveniles were placed.
3. The parties reviewed the COVID-19 protection procedures of the following juvenile placement facilities: Outside In; the Summit Academy/New Outlook Academy; and Adelphoi Village.
4. The protection procedures put in place by these placements include: suspending home passes; limiting visitors on campus; increasing the amount of telephone call time; making FaceTime and Skype available to children; giving specific direction on how to wash hands and avoid contact with other people; implementation of handwashing and sanitizing stations; fogging dorms with disinfectant; wiping down surfaces daily; having all sick employees stay at home until they are no longer symptomatic; and facilitating court appearances via videoconference.
5. The parties also specifically addressed the cases in which the juvenile public defender had filed petitions for release from placements on behalf of the children. A total of four petitions were reviewed; two were already moot; one will be withdrawn upon

receipt of additional information within the next few days, and one has been set for hearing April 15, 2020.

6. Blair County has a very low rate of juvenile placement.
7. At the time of this writing, the juvenile placement facilities utilized by Blair County juvenile probation are not taking new juveniles.
8. Based upon the information the court received in the aforementioned meeting, the court finds that the efforts of Blair County stakeholders in regard to juvenile placement in Blair County are meeting the ongoing demands of the COVID-19 pandemic.
9. The court remains committed to reconvening a meeting of the stakeholders as needed.

BY THE COURT:



Elizabeth A. Doyle, P.J.