

DISTRICT COURT - 35TH JUDICIAL DISTRICT

660 PLYMOUTH RD., PLYMOUTH, MICHIGAN 48170 - 1891

(734) 459-4740 Fax (734) 454-9303

www.35thdistrictcourt.org

JAMES A. PLAKAS
CHIEF DISTRICT JUDGE

RONALD W. LOWE
DISTRICT JUDGE



MICHAEL J. GEROU
CHIEF JUDGE PRO TEM

PAM AVDOULOS
COURT ADMINISTRATOR

In accordance with the Michigan Supreme Court's Return to Full Capacity Guide, updated June 21, 2021, and pursuant to Administrative Order No. 2020-14, the 35th District Court shall operate as follows, effective immediately:

The doors shall be open to the public and matters may now be held In-Person, so long as in a manner that is consistent with local public health guidance and in compliance with the directives of MIOSHA.

All participants in any matter that requires their appearance or testimony will be notified in advance as to whether their case will be heard In-Person at the Court, or virtually by way of Zoom, to be determined by the presiding Judge.

All parties must fully complete the applicable "Electronic Check In Forms" referenced on their Notice/Ticket, regardless of whether their matter is being heard In-Person or virtually by way of Zoom. No case shall be called by the presiding Judge until after this process has been fully and properly completed.

A party to a matter may request an alternative participation method than what has been originally assigned (i.e., request that a scheduled In-Person hearing be heard via Zoom, or that a scheduled Zoom hearing be heard In-Person). To exercise this opportunity, a party must make an email request to the Judge's Courtroom Clerk no later than fourteen (14) days prior to the scheduled hearing, and the presiding Judge shall decide at his earliest convenience if the request shall be granted. Said requests will not be considered unless emailed to the appropriate Clerk of the Judge to whom the matter has been assigned:

Deputy Clerk for Judge Gerou
Deputy Clerk for Judge Lowe
Deputy Clerk for Judge Plakas

judgegeroucourtclerk@35thdistrictcourt.org
judgelowecourtclerk@35thdistrictcourt.org
judgeplakascourtclerk@35thdistrictcourt.org

PROBATION

All "Reporting Probation" shall be conducted by way of telephone or virtually by way of Zoom, unless the Probationer is directed otherwise by a Probation Officer, with communications to be initiated by Court personnel.

The scheduling of Probation Department appointments shall be at the discretion of each Probation Officer, and shall be communicated to each Probationer by way of email, telephone or a Notice that is mailed from the Court to the most recent address provided by the Probationer.

Probationers are advised to contact their Probation Officer for any and all questions and concerns they may have related to their matter.

ACCESS TO THE COURT BUILDING IS AS FOLLOWS:

The Courthouse is open to the public, and all visitors must maintain six (6) foot social distancing at all times while in the building and while upon the 35th District Court premises.

The public is required to wear masks pursuant to local public health guidance and MIOSHA guidelines. Face coverings are not required when they cannot be medically tolerated; however, social distancing must be strictly followed and will be enforced.

Signage is posted at the entrance of the building requiring the public to self-screen for any COVID symptoms prior to gaining entry into the Courthouse, and instructing those who are exhibiting symptoms not to enter the building, and to immediately leave the premises, and contact the Court so that alternate arrangements may be made.

EMPLOYEE FACE COVERING POLICY

The 35th District Court continues to observe the CDC guidelines and MIOSHA rules to provide safety for all Court employees. Masks will not be required for any employees, whether vaccinated or unvaccinated; however, all unvaccinated employees shall continue to maintain six (6) foot social distancing.

All employees regardless of vaccination status must wear face coverings when unable to maintain six (6) foot social distancing with members of the public.

MARRIAGE CIVIL CEREMONIES

Scheduling marriage civil ceremonies will resume beginning 7/6/2021. Follow the instructions outlined on the Court's website for further information or your request will not be considered.

Should there be a local resurgence in COVID-19 cases in the 35th District's jurisdiction, the Court may be required to implement additional or alternative COVID-19 mitigation measures and procedures previously provided for in the Return to Full Capacity Phases 1-3.

<https://courts.michigan.gov/News-Events/covid19-resources/Documents/ReturntoFullCapacityGuide.pdf>

Date: July 1, 2021

Hon. James A. Plakas
Chief Judge, 35th District Court