



Arlington Juvenile and Domestic Relations District Court
17TH JUDICIAL DISTRICT

GEORGE D. VAROUTSOS
CHIEF JUDGE

ROBIN L. ROBB
JUDGE

RONIKKA K. LARTEY
CLERK

Arlington County Justice Center
1425 North Courthouse Road, 4th Floor
Arlington, Virginia 22201

Mailing Address: P.O. Box 925, Arlington, Virginia 22216
Telephone: (703) 228-4495

March 20, 2020

UPDATED AND AMENDED

ARLINGTON COUNTY AND CITY OF FALLS CHURCH
JUVENILE AND DOMESTIC RELATIONS DISTRICT COURTS
COVID-19 PLAN

On March 12, 2020, Governor Northam entered Executive Order Number Fifty-One (2020) Declaration of State of Emergency Due to Novel Coronavirus COVID-19. On March 16, 2020 Donald W. Lemons, Chief Justice of the Supreme Court of Virginia issued an Order Declaring a Judicial Emergency in response to COVID-19 Emergency.

The Court's procedures for docket management issued on March 15, 2020 and revised on March 17, 2020 are further amended as set forth herein. This document supersedes and replaces those procedures. These procedures remain in effect to April 6, 2020. These procedures may be further modified or extended as circumstances warrant and will be posted on the county website, through the Arlington County Bar Association and through the Virginia Judicial System website.

Abuse and Neglect, Child Protective Orders and Termination of Parental Rights Cases

Actions involving these proceedings are considered in the exception of matters that do not require continuance and will proceed on the docket as follows:

1. Uncontested or review hearings may be conducted by audio/video conferencing. Orders will be circulated electronically and must be submitted for entry on the same date as the hearing.
2. Contested matters remain on the docket as scheduled.

Civil Cases (Not otherwise set out in this procedure statement):

1. All civil proceedings scheduled from March 17 through April 3, 2020 are hereby continued and will be set for status as follows:

<i>Courtroom</i>	<i>New Date and Time</i>
4A	April 7, 2020 at 2:00 p.m.
4B	April 7, 2020 at 9:00 a.m.

Counsel are encouraged to contact the Clerk’s office to obtain a mutually agreeable date for trial and to submit an agreed order setting the date.

Criminal Cases:

1. Arraignments and Bond Motions:
 - a. In- custody arraignments and docketed bond motions will be conducted via video for both adults and juveniles. This may necessitate these matters being heard on the 3rd, 10th or 11th floor of the Arlington County Courthouse. Location of the proceeding will be provided on the court date.
 - b. Out-of-custody adult and juvenile arraignments will be continued with notices to be sent as to new dates.

2. Remanding to the custody of the Sheriff:

When a person is remanded in court to the custody of the Sheriff, the detainee will be asked appropriate questions to assist the Sheriff.

3. Delayed Reporting and Weekend Confinement:

Delayed reporting and weekend confinement obligations, which are currently in place, will be suspended and defendants are instructed to **NOT** report to the jail. These cases will be docketed on May 4, 2020 date at 9:00 a.m. for entry of a new order imposing delayed or weekend confinement obligations. Defendant’s appearance on May 4, 2020 is mandatory so that the Defendant can be apprised of the new reporting obligations.

4. Criminal Trials and Preliminary hearings for adults and juveniles:
 - a. Out of Custody: These matters will be continued for status on April 8 at 9:00 a.m. if the matter was scheduled in 4A and 2:00 p.m. if the matter was scheduled in 4B. Subpoenaed witnesses, police officers, and other witnesses are to be released. Counsel are encouraged to contact the Clerk’s office to obtain a mutually agreeable date for trial and to submit an agreed order setting the date.
 - b. In Custody: These matters will remain on the date currently scheduled for status. The detainee will appear by video.

Division of Child Support Enforcement Cases:

Commencing on March 17, 2020 through April 17, 2020, all cases in which the Division of Child Support Enforcement is involved will be rescheduled for status or for entry of agreed upon orders as follows:

<i>Courtroom</i>	<i>Day of the Week Originally Scheduled</i>	<i>New Date and Time</i>
4A	Tuesday	May 5, 2020 at 1:00 p.m.
4B	Tuesday	May 5, 2020 at 9:00 a.m.
4A	Thursday	May 7, 2020 at 9:00 a.m.
4B	Thursday	May 7, 2020 at 1:00 p.m.

Driver’s License Ceremony:

The driver’s license ceremony currently scheduled for April 1, 2020 is moved to April 22, 2020 at 4:00 p.m. The new date may be subject to change. Any subsequent change will be posted on the Court’s website.

Fare Evasion/Traffic Cases:

All fare evasion and traffic cases scheduled for adjudication will be removed from the docket and will be rescheduled to the officer’s available date after April 1, 2020. Matters set for ex parte closure or dismissal will remain on the Court’s docket.

Protective Orders:

All Petitions for Preliminary Protective Orders will proceed on the docket as normal and without changes. At a full hearing on the Petition, the Court will have a liberal continuance policy. Should a continuance be granted another Preliminary Protective Order may be entered pending final adjudication.

Continuance Policy

Requests for a continuance of any matter that remains on the docket shall be made by written motion and will be granted for good cause.

Any counsel or parties who are feeling ill or have been exposed to the Coronavirus or who are otherwise exhibiting symptoms of the illness are not to appear in Court and the Clerk’s Office is to be notified by phone at (703) 228-4495.