

## Coronavirus (COVID-19) FAQs

### Q. What if I need a Protection From Abuse order?

A. The Judicial Center is still hearing emergency cases such as PFAs. If you are not in a safe place, please call Women's Services, Inc. at 1-888-881-0189. Please call the Law Library (814) 333-7300, extension #5730 and someone will guide you through the current process. During this period, much of the PFA paperwork can be completed by telephone before coming in to finish the process.

### Q. What if I have a court hearing?

A.

- Check with your attorney if you have one.
- If you have a PFA hearing on Thursday morning, you should appear, unless you are experiencing flulike symptoms, in which case you should call your attorney or if you have no attorney, call Court Administration at (814) 333-7498 for further instruction.
- If you have a hearing before April 1, 2020 and you have not yet received an order continuing your hearing, call your attorney or, if you have no attorney, call the Court Administrator's office at (814) 333-7498 for more information.
- Otherwise, make sure to update your contact info (esp. phone numbers) with filing offices: Prothonotary (814) 333-7324 or Clerk of Courts (814) 333-7442 so we can keep you informed as quickly as possible
- Note: At this time only attorneys, litigants, witnesses and victims and participants are being permitted to enter Court facilities or attend court hearings. Other family, friends, etc. will not be permitted.

### Q. Should I report to jury service?

A. **Yes.** Jurors should report to jury duty unless they are sick. Jurors who are experiencing flu-like symptoms or have recently returned from foreign or cruise ship travel should contact the Jury Coordinators at 333-7498. **There will be NO JURY TRIALS through at least April 30, 2020.**

### Q. Should I report for court supervision?

A. **Yes.** Persons subject to court supervision – whether it be probation, pretrial monitoring or any other supervision – should continue to comply with reporting requirements. Individuals who are sick should contact their probation officer.

### Q. What should I do to prevent transmission of coronavirus?

A. **Take the same precautions you would to avoid other respiratory diseases, such as the flu:**

- Avoid close contact with people who are sick
- Avoid touching your eyes, nose and mouth

- Stay home when you are sick
- Cover your cough or sneeze with your upper sleeve. If wearing short sleeves, cover your cough/sneeze with a tissue, then throw the tissue in the trash.
- Clean and disinfect frequently touched objects and surfaces using a disinfectant wipe
- Wash your hands often with soap and water for at least 20 seconds, especially after going to the bathroom; before eating; and after blowing your nose, coughing or sneezing
  - If soap and water are not readily available, use an alcohol-based hand sanitizer with at least 60 percent alcohol. Always wash hands with soap and water if hands are visibly dirty.

**Q. What should I do if I feel sick or develop symptoms?**

**A. Stay home, except to get medical care, and follow these protocols:**

- Separate yourself from other people and animals in your home
- Call ahead before visiting your doctor
- Cover your coughs and sneezes
- Wash your hands often
- Avoid sharing personal household items
- Monitor your symptoms

**Q. What should I do if I have been exposed to someone who is sick?**

**A. Follow all protocols for preventing transmission of illness.**

If you are or may have been exposed to someone with coronavirus, call a healthcare professional if you develop a fever and symptoms of respiratory illness. Those symptoms include cough or difficulty breathing developed after recent travel from an area with widespread or on-going community spread or after you have been in close contact with a person known to have coronavirus.

For more information and answers to other frequently asked questions, please visit the Pennsylvania Department of Health (DOH) website at:

<https://www.health.pa.gov/topics/disease/Pages/Coronavirus.aspx>

Updates from the Centers for Disease Control (CDC) can be found at

<https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/index.html>