

**MISSOURI CIRCUIT COURT
TWENTY SECOND JUDICIAL CIRCUIT
(CITY OF ST. LOUIS)**

In Re:)	Division 30
)	
COVID-19)	
)	Juvenile Court
)	

ADMINISTRATIVE ORDER #12

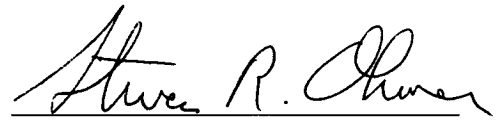
Pursuant to the Missouri Supreme Court en banc order dated March 22, 2020, regarding the COVID-19 Pandemic, the Administrative Orders of the Twenty Second Judicial Circuit dated March 16, 2020 and March 19, 2020 and the Mayor of St. Louis decree of March 22, 2020;

1. All detention hearings, including adjudication and dispositional hearings where the juvenile is detained, pcwp hearings and protective custody hearings will proceed as scheduled and may be held by phone or video with the consent of all parties and at the discretion of the judicial officer. Courtroom #3 and #4 hearings may occur in the Multipurpose room and will stagger hearings to accommodate each in consultation with each. Courtroom #1 will also be available for use as needed.
2. All other delinquency hearings, wherein the juvenile is not detained, and child abuse and neglect hearings shall be postponed, continued and rescheduled until April 27, 2020 and thereafter due to these extraordinary circumstances. These hearing shall be rescheduled at the discretion of each responsible judicial officer for good cause.
3. Accordingly, personal appearances are not necessary in the delinquency and child abuse and neglect hearings listed in #2 above. However, it is imperative that all staff continue to work for the best interest of the children and provide the court with any pertinent input regarding services or other needs of the children and/or parents. This input may be provided by written report, video or telephone.
4. It is in the best interests of the children that the Juvenile Court continue to operate. Each judicial officer in courtroom #1, #3 and #4 shall have the discretion to conduct their docket in consideration of the COVID-19 Pandemic and in consideration of the public and staff. Accordingly, the judicial officer shall have the discretion to limit and exclude individuals at any hearing to comply with the recommendations of the CDC.
5. The treatment court program shall also be suspended at this time. However, the judicial officers are encouraged to review files and cases for suitability for ultimate referrals to the treatment court program.

6. While the time standard have been suspended, judicial officers should be cognizant of these standards in rescheduling cases to keep within the spirit of the standards. It is also important that cases continue to proceed and move forward in the best interest of the children for their benefit and welfare.
7. All juvenile court personnel are encouraged to take appropriate action consistent with the Center for Disease Control and Prevention guidelines. This order is intended to be interpreted broadly for protection of the children, staff and the public.
8. Implementation of this order is imperative to combat the spread of the disease and for the safety of our employees, staff, public and our children.
9. Attorneys, deputy juvenile officers, children's division staff and GALs are encouraged to provide the court with information through written reports and otherwise to ensure appropriate services are being provided and necessary orders are in place to facilitate permanency for our children in care sooner rather than later.
10. This Administrative Order remain in effect until further Order of this Court.

IT IS SO ORDERED:

DATED: March 23, 2020



Steven R. Ohmer
Administrative Judge
Family Court