

SUPERIOR COURT OF LAKE COUNTY CRIMINAL DIVISION
CROWN POINT, INDIANA

Filed in

MAR 13 2020

L. J. ...
CLERK LAKE SUPERIOR COURT

IN RE: THE MATTER OF PERMITTING)
WAIVER OF APPEARANCE AND)
CONTINUANCE MOTIONS FOR)
CERTAIN COURT DATES)

CAUSE 45G03-2003-CB-0000SB

ORDER

WHEREAS the United States Center for Disease Control is encouraging "social distancing" as a means of limiting the spread of COVID-19 and other potentially fatal viruses; and

WHEREAS the Court finds that mitigation of the spread of contagions outweighs the benefit of having in-person appearances on non-evidentiary court settings; and

WHEREAS on March 6, 2020, Indiana Governor Eric Holcomb declared a public health emergency for the State.

The Lake Superior Court, Criminal Division now FINDS and ORDERS as follows:

- (1) Effective March 16, 2020 and extending through April 10, 2020, any attorney of record wishing to waive a defendant's appearance may so request and is hereby given permission to do so.
- (2) The Motion to Waive a defendant's appearance must include a statement indicating that the Lake County Prosecutor's Office was notified and is in agreement.
- (3) Initial Appearance excluded. The Lake Superior Court, Criminal Division will not entertain a Motion to Waive a defendant's appearance for an Initial Appearance.
- (4) With respect to evidentiary hearings, the Court now hereby finds that (a) the existence of flu or flu-like symptoms in any attorney, self-represented litigant, or witness expected to testify; or (b) exposure of such individuals to anyone who has or may have COVID-19, shall be considered "good cause" for any motion made to continue a court setting. To the extent possible without violating statutory or constitutional rights, the Court will endeavor to accommodate requests made pursuant to this order.

This foregoing order shall expire on April 10, 2020, unless terminated or extended by further order of this Court. Clerk: T.R. 72 Notice.

SO ORDERED this 13th day of March, 2020.



DIANE ROSS BOSWELL, Senior Judge, Room III