

NOTICE CONCERNING CRIMINAL DIVISION

Consistent with Executive Order 20-48, issued by the Honorable Eric J. Holcomb, Governor of Indiana, on November 13, 2020, the Indiana State Department of Health (ISDH) declared Lake County to a Covid-19 red as of November 18, 2020. Therefore, the Court finds that there is a local emergency and adopts the recommendations of Governor Holcomb, the ISDH and the Resuming Court Operations Task Force in establishing the following procedures for conducting Initial Hearings and Petitions Court cases in the Criminal Division beginning **November 30, 2020 until January 4, 2021:**

INITIAL HEARINGS

Defendants in the Lake County Jail:

All individuals incarcerated in the Lake County Jail awaiting an initial hearing will have a hearing on Monday, Wednesday or Friday at 8:30 a.m. via Zoom. This procedure is exactly as it has been for the last several months with one difference: there will be no in-person proceedings for in-custody Defendants. Therefore, all parties must be present by Zoom including attorneys representing the State or the Defendant. The Zoom ID numbers and Passwords for Magistrates Bokota and Sullivan remain the same.

Defendants Who Have Posted Bond:

Individuals who have posted bond will not have an initial hearing until on or after January 4, 2021. Orders will be issued to notify the parties of the Initial Hearing date. Attorneys are *strenuously encouraged* to waive initial hearings by motion that affirms the Defendant has been advised of the charges, penalties and his/her legal and Constitutional rights.

PETITIONS TO EXPEL OR REVOKE PROBATION

Defendants in the Lake County Jail or LCCC:

All individuals incarcerated in the Lake County Jail or LCCC will have a hearing on Tuesday or Thursday morning at 8:30 a.m. via Zoom. Attorneys should file motions to continue all hearings unless there will be a disposition or a release from custody. There will be no in-person hearings; all parties must appear by Zoom.

Defendants Who Are Not In Custody:

Attorneys should file motions to continue all hearings unless there will be a disposition. If a disposition is anticipated, counsel must file a motion no later than one week before the scheduled hearing date requesting a hearing by Zoom or in-person. If the former, counsel must contact the court reporter to obtain a unique ID and Password that your client may use for this type of hearing only.