

Emergency Pandemic Protocols
Crown Point City Court
Judge Kent A. Jeffirs

Based upon the pandemic metrics issued by the Indiana State Department of Health, as of November 18, 2020. Lake County is now in the "Red Zone". Therefore, effective immediately, the Court accepts the recommendations suggested by Governor Eric Holcomb, ISDH, and the Resuming Court Operations Task Force, and initiates the following protocols:

1. Crown Point City Court and Court Clerk's Office will be closed to the public beginning December 7, 2020 through January 8, 2021 to mitigate the spread of COVID-19 infections. The Court Clerk's Office will re-open to the public on January 11, 2021 at 9:00 am unless postponed by further Order of this Court.
2. All court calls and in-person hearings currently scheduled from December 7, 2019 through January 8, 2021 are hereby ordered **CONTINUED** and parties with hearing dates during that time frame will be notified of new hearing dates in 2021. Court calls and in-person hearings will resume on Tuesday, January 12, 2021, unless cancelled or continued by further Order of this Court. There will be no jury trials.
3. As an exception to this Order, emergency hearings may be held in Court if they cannot be held remotely, and only if specifically authorized and scheduled by the Court, and the only people who will be allowed in the Courtroom beside Court staff will be the Deputy Prosecuting Attorney, Defense Attorney, and essential witnesses.
4. As an exception to this Order, non-emergency hearings may be held remotely via Zoom in the Court's discretion only if specifically authorized and scheduled by the Court upon written motion by the parties and a written Order of the Court, and if granted will be held via Zoom. If allowed, properly executed Plea Agreements and written waivers must be filed 1 day prior to the proceedings. Attorneys may fax documents to the Court.
5. Any requests for emergency hearings or non-emergency Zoom hearings during this timeframe shall be directed to the Clerk of Court at the numbers below who will be available by phone and fax only.

Court phone: (219) 662-3243

Court fax: (219) 323-8780.

Monday-Friday 9:00 am to Noon and 1pm - 4pm.

6. The wearing of facial coverings and temperature checks will be required while in the Courtroom.
7. These protocols shall remain in effect until January 11, 2021, or until further order of the Court.

SO ORDERD December 3, 2020

/s/ Kent A. Jeffirs

KENT A. JEFFIRS, JUDGE
CROWN POINT CITY COURT