

## General Announcement

Due to public health concerns associated with the Corona Virus, the General District Court for Amelia County will be closed from March 16 until March 31, 2020, with the following exceptions:

- the Clerk's office shall remain open to accept pleadings, payments and other filings;
- the Court will hear bond hearings and conduct arraignments for incarcerated defendants by video only;
- the Court will hear preliminary protective orders by affidavit only;
- the Court will hear trials of incarcerated criminal defendants. A liberal continuance policy is in effect, and it is strongly suggested that Counsel endeavor to agree to Defendant's appearance by video in lieu of defendants being transported from jail; and
- the Court will hear emergency motions filed during this time period.

All other matters, administrative, criminal or civil are continued generally. The clerk will notify Counsel of new court dates in writing, if Counsel does not first contact the clerk to set an appropriate date.

Amelia County Clerk's Office  
Telephone: 804-561-2456  
Fax: 804-561-6956

**VIRGINIA:**

**IN THE GENERAL DISTRICT COURT FOR THE COUNTY OF AMELIA  
CRIMINAL AND TRAFFIC DIVISIONS**

**ORDER**

It appearing to the Court that President of the United State and the Governor of the Commonwealth of Virginia have issued certain emergency declarations concerning the health and safety of our citizens due to the recent increase in Novel Coronavirus/COVID-19 cases;

And it further appearing to the Court that the federal Center for Disease Control has issued guidance, including mitigation strategies for communities to reduce or eliminate large gatherings of individuals in order to avoid the spread of the said infection;

And it further appearing to the Court that is authorized under Virginia Code section 16.1-69.35(5) to determine when the Court shall be open for the transection of business and may authorize the court and the Clerk's Office to close when, "under prevailing conditions, [it] would constitute a threat to the health and safety of the clerk's office personnel or the general public[...]";

And the Court having met and consulted with various stakeholders in the Court's operations and the Court being unaware of any objection to the entry of this Order,

It is hereby **ORDERED** that the General District Court is CLOSED to the general public beginning Monday, March 16, 2020 until March 31, 2020.

It is further **ORDERED** that the Court shall continue to conduct arraignments and bond hearings by video feed only for incarcerated individuals charged with violations of the criminal code of the Commonwealth.

It is further **ORDERED** that all pending criminal and traffic cases docketed between Monday, March 16, 2020 and Tuesday, March 31, 2020 are hereby continued generally on the Court's docket and that the parties and counsel shall be notified by mail of the rescheduled court date. However, any court date in which the defendant is incarcerated will proceed on the currently scheduled court date, subject to the disposition of any written motion for continuance filed hereafter, said motions shall be liberally granted. The Court strongly encourages counsel to seek agreements as to the defendant's appearance by video in lieu of the defendant being transported from a jail.

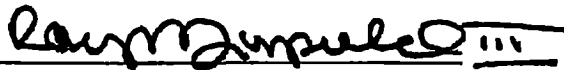
It is further **ORDERED** that during the period of March 16, 2020 through March 31, 2020, the Clerk's Office shall remain open to receive pleadings and other filings as necessary.

It is further **ORDERED** that the Court shall hear preliminary protective orders by affidavit only.

It is further **ORDERED** that the Court shall hear emergency motions filed in any case during this period.

This **ORDER** shall remain in effect pending further order of this Court.

**IT IS SO ORDERED** this 15th day of March, 2020.



The Honorable Ray P. Lupold, III, Chief Judge  
Eleventh Judicial Circuit

**VIRGINIA:**

**IN THE GENERAL DISTRICT COURT FOR THE COUNTY OF AMELIA  
CIVIL DIVISION**

**ORDER**

It appearing to the Court that President of the United State and the Governor of the Commonwealth of Virginia have issued certain emergency declarations concerning the health and safety of our citizens due to the recent increase in Novel Coronavirus/COVID-19 cases;

And it further appearing to the Court that the federal Center for Disease Control has issued guidance, including mitigation strategies for communities to reduce or eliminate large gatherings of individuals in order to avoid the spread of the said infection;

And it further appearing to the Court that it is authorized under Virginia Code section 16.1-69.35(5) to determine when the Court shall be open for the transection of business and may authorize the court and the Clerk's Office to close when, "under prevailing conditions, [it] would constitute a threat to the health and safety of the clerk's office personnel or the general public[...]"


It is hereby **ORDERED** that the General District Court is **CLOSED** to the general public beginning Monday, March 16, 2020, until March 31, 2020.

It is further **ORDERED** that all pending civil cases docketed between Monday, March 16, 2020 and Tuesday, March 31, 2020 are hereby continued generally on the Court's docket and that the parties and counsel shall be notified by mail of the rescheduled court date.

It is further **ORDERED** that during the period of March 16, 2020 and March 31, 2020, the Court will conduct hearings on emergency motions, including but not limited to motions for unlawful exclusion. During the same period, the Clerk's Office shall remain open to receive pleadings and other filings as necessary.

This **ORDER** shall remain in effect pending further order of this Court.

**IT IS SO ORDERED** this 15th day of March, 2020.

  
The Honorable Ray P. Lupold, III, Chief Judge  
Eleventh Judicial Circuit