STATE OF INDIANA }
}SS:
COUNTY OF LAKE }

IN THE HOBART CITY COURT
HOBART, INDIANA

IN RE: RESPONSE TO COVID-19 VIRUS

ORDER

The Court has reviewed the CDC recommendations, the Order for Emergency Relief issued by the Indiana Supreme Court applicable to the courts of Lake County, dated March 13, 2020, the recommendations contained in the Order of the Indiana Supreme Court dated March 16, 2020, and Executive Order 20-04 issued by the Governor dated March 16, 2020.

The Court has also reviewed its practices, and concludes that the practice of scheduling large numbers of cases for the same time must immediately cease. In order to achieve compliance with CDC and ISDH recommendations regarding group size and social distancing, the Court will take the following steps:

1. All cases scheduled between March 18, 2020 and May 1, 2020 will be continued to a date after June 1, 2020. Scheduling will be done so as to limit court attendance to no more than 50 people at a time. The Clerk of this Court shall notify the parties of the new court date.

2. The office of the Court Clerk will be open 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Monday through Friday and available during those hours by phone, fax, e-mail and e-filing. Public access to the clerk's office shall be limited to the payment window during hours the building is open as determined by the City of Hobart (currently 9:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m.)

3. Defendants or attorneys having matters of an urgent nature that they believe need to be addressed prior to June 1, 2020 may contact the court to request more immediate action on a case by case basis. Non-evidentiary matters requiring a hearing may be addressed by remote appearance.

4. The existence of flu or flu-like symptoms or fever in any attorney, self-represented litigant or witness expected to testify, or exposure of any such individuals to anyone who has or may have the COVID-19 virus shall be considered sufficient cause for a motion to continue s scheduled hearing.

So Ordered this 18th day of March, 2020.

William J. Longer, Judge
Hobart City Court