



Calvert County NEWS

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Restricted Access to Calvert County Courthouse Extended Through May 1

PRINCE FREDERICK, Md. – March 27, 2020 – The rapidly evolving health emergency regarding the spread of Coronavirus Disease 2019 (COVID-19) requires the Maryland court system to continually review and evaluate contingency planning efforts. The Calvert County Courthouse located at 175 Main St. in Prince Frederick will remain under restricted access through May 1, 2020.

By way of the Administrative Order dated March 25, 2020, all courts in the Maryland Judiciary, court offices, administrative offices, units of the Judiciary, and the Offices of the Clerks of the Circuit Courts and the clerks' offices of the District Court continue to be restricted to emergency operations and closed with limited exceptions, as outlined below, through May 1, 2020, pending further order of the Chief Judge of the Court of Appeals.

The following mandatory matters shall continue to be scheduled and heard in the Circuit Court, in keeping with the urgency of those matters and consistent with statutory requirements, either in person or remotely pursuant to the Administrative Order on Remote Electronic Participation in Judicial Proceedings, June 18, 2018, with the court to notify all participants necessary to the proceeding:

- bail reviews/bench warrants
- arraignments for detained defendants
- juvenile detention hearings

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- peace order petitions (juvenile respondents)
- emergency evaluation petitions
- quarantine and isolation petitions
- extradition cases
- body attachments
- extreme risk protective order appeals

For all other emergency matters including those listed below, the administrative judge or his or her designee will review the petition, determine whether it must be heard in person, or can be heard with remote electronic participation, or can be scheduled after the emergency period has ended, or can be resolved without a hearing:

- shelter care hearing and/or related adjudications
- emergency delinquency hearings
- emergency issues in guardianship matters
- domestic violence protective orders
- appeals from peace orders
- family law emergencies
- temporary restraining orders
- criminal competency matters
- motions regarding:
 - extreme risk protective orders
 - domestic violence protective orders
 - peace orders
 - contempt hearings related to peace or protective orders
 - matters involving locally incarcerated defendants

All other matters, including jury trials scheduled to be heard through May 1, 2020, are hereby postponed, unless otherwise scheduled for telephone and/or video hearings when practicable.

Essential court personnel will be available to the public by telephone between the hours of 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Maryland Electronic Court (MDEC) continues to be available for electronic filing and is required to be used for all MDEC counties. For pleadings not required to

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be filed electronically, filings will be received by mail and may be received via drop box installed in the rear parking lot of the courthouse.

Any questions or concerns relative to cases or proceedings should be directed to:

- Circuit Court: 410-535-1600
- District Court: 443-550-6700

Calvert County Government continues to take precautionary measures to slow the spread of COVID-19 and limit the number of people infected. Residents, employees and media are encouraged to monitor Calvert County's virtual resource center for updates and information resources: www.CalvertCountyMd.gov/Coronavirus.

Updates will continue to appear on the Calvert County Government website, www.CalvertCountyMd.gov, Facebook page at www.facebook.com/CalvertCountyMd and Comcast Channel 6.

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