

Notice of COVID-19 Response by Oklahoma County District Court

On Tuesday, March 17th, Presiding Judge Ray Elliott, following the First Joint Emergency Order, SCAD-2020-24, issued by Chief Justice Noma Gurich, Oklahoma Supreme Court, and Presiding Judge David Lewis, Oklahoma Court of Criminal Appeals, implemented the following policies in Oklahoma County:

All non-emergency hearings were continued for 30-45 days.
Judges' staff started calling parties to continue non-emergency matters.
No new non-emergency hearings could be set for 30-45 days.
People were asked not to come to the Courthouse to file new non-emergency cases.

In regard to Criminal cases this meant all out of custody cases were continued. In the event of an in custody case should a client desire to waive his or her right to a speedy trial or other constitutional deadlines the defense attorney could call the assigned judge and make such a record over the phone in order to get a continuance.

The reduction of individuals in the Courthouse due to these policies made it possible on Monday, March 23rd, for Presiding Judge Ray Elliott to implement an even bolder plan to limit the potential spread of COVID-19. Under this plan judges and their staff will rotate working remotely on a weekly basis. There will only be one judge in the Courthouse per division to cover emergency matters such as emergency child custody issues, Victims Protective Orders and other emergency requests. Additionally, there will always be at least one to two District Judges in the building to handle in custody criminal matters where there are constitutionally required deadlines the defendant does not want to waive and to hear civil emergencies such as temporary restraining orders.

Presiding Judge Ray Elliott asks that everyone follow CDC guidelines regarding social distancing and only come to the Courthouse for true emergencies. All judges, staff, and attorneys have been encouraged to utilize electronic means to conduct business whenever possible.

For further information call Renee Troxell, Oklahoma County Trial Court Administrator, at (405) 713-1423 or e-mail her at renee.troxell@oscn.net.

DISTRICT COURT



**SEVENTH JUDICIAL DISTRICT, STATE OF OKLAHOMA
OKLAHOMA COUNTY COURTHOUSE
OKLAHOMA CITY, OKLAHOMA 73102**

RAY C. ELLIOTT
PRESIDING ADMINISTRATIVE JUDGE

TELEPHONE:
(405) 713-1428

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE –

**Oklahoma County Non-Emergency Hearings Continued and Filing Deadlines
in Civil cases extended**

Due to the First Emergency Joint Order Regarding the COVID-19 State of Disaster issued by Chief Justice Noma D. Gurich, Oklahoma Supreme Court and Presiding Judge David B. Lewis, Oklahoma Court of Criminal Appeals the following steps are being taken in Oklahoma County District Court.

All non-emergency hearings are being continued for 30-45 days. The staff of the Judge assigned to hear your case will call you with a new date. You may also call your Judge's office to request a new hearing date if you do not hear from them. No new non-emergency hearings will be set for at least 30-45 days.

The Joint Order extended the statute of limitation for 30 days from March 16, 2020. Please do not come to the Courthouse to file new non-emergency cases for 30 days.

For further information, please contact Oklahoma County Trial Court Administrator, Renée Troxell, at 405-713-1423.

IN THE DISTRICT COURT OF OKLAHOMA COUNTY
STATE OF OKLAHOMA

MAR 20 2020

RICK WARREN
COURT CLERK

51 *[Signature]*

IN RE: WRITS OF HABEAS CORPUS)

A07-2020 - 14

**EMERGENCY ORDER VACATING WRITS OF HABEAS CORPUS ad
PROSEQUENDUM AND SUSPENDING TRANSPORTATION OF
INMATES TO THE OKLAHOMA COUNTY DETENTION CENTER
FOR CERTAIN JUDICIAL PROCEEDINGS**

Now, on this 20th day of March, 2020, pursuant to the World Health Organization's designation of the COVID-19 outbreak as a global pandemic, the President of the United States' declaration of a national emergency, Oklahoma Governor Stitt's declaration of a state of emergency, and SCAD No. 2020-24, the following orders are issued:

1. All Writs of Habeas Corpus ad Prosequendum previously issued by the District Court of Oklahoma County are hereby vacated. The Oklahoma County Sheriff is ordered to refrain from serving and/or executing all Writs of Habeas Corpus ad Prosequendum previously issued by this Court which relate to the transportation of inmates from any county detention facility or state correction facility to the Oklahoma County Detention Center unless or until the same are reissued following this Order.
2. All orders to the Department of Corrections pertaining to the transport of inmates to the Oklahoma County Detention Center or for court

appearances in Oklahoma County including but not limited to review hearings, hearings on requests to modify sentences and sentencing hearings following the completion of a Delayed Sentencing program are hereby vacated. The Department of Corrections shall not transport those inmates to Oklahoma County unless and until an order directing the transportation of an inmate is reissued by the assigned judge.


3. This Order is to be effective immediately and has retroactive effect to any Writ of Habeas Corpus ad Prosequendum or order to transport which has not been served or executed as of this date.
4. This Order does not apply to persons arrested in Cleveland County but taken by the Oklahoma City Police Department to the Oklahoma County Detention Center.

IT IS SO ORDERED.

Dated this 20th day of March 2020.



RAY C. ELLIOTT
PRESIDING ADMINISTRATIVE JUDGE

CERTIFIED COPY
AS FILED OF RECORD
IN DISTRICT COURT
MAR 20 2020
RICK WARREN COURT CLERK
Oklahoma County


DISTRICT COURT



**SEVENTH JUDICIAL DISTRICT, STATE OF OKLAHOMA
OKLAHOMA COUNTY COURTHOUSE
OKLAHOMA CITY, OKLAHOMA 73102**

RAY C. ELLIOTT
PRESIDING ADMINISTRATIVE JUDGE

TELEPHONE:
(405) 713-1428

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE –

**All Oklahoma County Jury Trials scheduled for March 23 and April 6, 2020
are Cancelled**

Due to states of emergency declared by National, State, and City governments, Oklahoma County Presiding Judge Ray C. Elliott has announced the cancellation of Oklahoma County jury trials set for the weeks of March 23 and April 6, 2020.

If you received a jury summons from the Oklahoma County Court Clerk to appear for jury duty on those dates you are excused from service. You do not need to appear or to call the Jury clerk. You may be called at a later date for jury service.

Presiding Judge Elliott will continue to monitor the situation and is committed to ensuring the safety of our citizens while balancing the needs of those requiring Court services.

For further information, please contact Oklahoma County Trial Court Administrator, Renée Troxell, at 405-713-1423.