

**FILED**  
**MAY 04 2020**  
Sauk Co.  
WI Circuit Court

STATE OF WISCONSIN

CIRCUIT COURT

SAUK COUNTY

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**AMENDED ORDER REGARDING PUBLIC ACCESS TO THE COURTHOUSE**

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**WHEREAS** the Court previously ordered a temporary reduction in the hours for the general public to physically access the Clerk of Circuit Court offices, Register in Probate offices, Court Commissioner offices, and Circuit Court courtrooms and branch offices to the hours of 1:00p.m. – 3:30 p.m. Monday through Friday (Order Regarding Public Access to the Courthouse, Mar. 26, 2020) (the “Courthouse Limited Hours Order”); and

**WHEREAS** by its terms the Courthouse Limited Hours Order remains in effect until further ordered by the Court; and

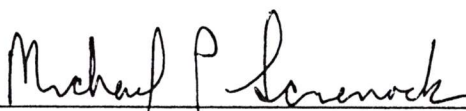
**WHEREAS** Sauk County’s administrative, health, and emergency management officials have put in place building entry procedures that address screening all employees and visitors prior to entry into the Courthouse, which procedures have been in place throughout the month of April 2020; and

**WHEREAS** the Sauk County Circuit Court remains subject to the Wisconsin Supreme Court’s Order regarding Remote Hearings During the COVID-19 Pandemic, issued March 22, 2020 and amended April 15, 2020, by which the Circuit Court is precluded indefinitely from conducting in-person court proceedings except in very limited circumstances; and

**WHEREAS** Presiding Judge Michael Screnock, after consultation with the other circuit judges and clerk of circuit court, has concluded that lifting the restriction on the hours of public access to the Historic Courthouse Building a) will improve the Court's ability to schedule remote hearings during morning hours for as long as the Supreme Court's remote hearings-order remains in effect, b) is not expected to appreciably increase the volume of visitors to the Historic Courthouse Building, and c) provides for the health and safety of building occupants through the County's building entry procedures;

**NOW THEREFORE IT IS ORDERED** that the Courthouse Limited Hours Order shall expire at the close of business May 1, 2020. Commencing at 8:00 a.m. on May 4, 2020 the general public may physically access the Clerk of Circuit Court offices, Register in Probate offices, Court Commissioner offices, and Circuit Court courtrooms and branch offices during normal business hours, subject to building entry procedures established by Sauk County Emergency Management. The public should note that access to other offices in the Historic Courthouse Building (including the District Attorney, Child Support Agency, and Justice, Diversion, and Support) may be subject to further restrictions notwithstanding public access to the Court's functions.

Dated this 1<sup>st</sup> day of May 2020.



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Judge Michael P. Screnock  
Presiding Judge  
Sauk County Circuit Court