

STATE OF WISCONSIN

CIRCUIT COURT

SAUK COUNTY

ORDER REGARDING PUBLIC ACCESS TO THE COURTHOUSE

WHEREAS the World Health Organization declared a global pandemic of COVID-19 due to widespread human infection worldwide, Governor Evers has declared a public health emergency in Wisconsin, the Sauk County Board has declared a state of emergency in Sauk County, and the Centers for Disease Control and other public health agencies have advised public and private entities to take precautions in order to reduce the spread of the virus; and

WHEREAS Sauk County's elected judges are monitoring this situation and are committed to affording legally required access to our courts and service to the public, while protecting the health and safety of the parties, judges, court staff and security, attorneys, jurors, other participants in court proceedings, and all other persons in the Sauk County Courthouse, and fulfilling their constitutional obligations; and

WHEREAS Presiding Judge Michael Screnock and Sauk County administrative, health, and emergency management officials have collaborated in regards to these matters, resulting in the decision to restrict public access to the Historic Courthouse Building to specific afternoon hours;

NOW THEREFORE IT IS ORDERED that the Sauk County Circuit Court will temporarily reduce 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 1:00 p.m. – 3:30 p.m. Monday through Friday. The public should note that access to other offices in the Historic Courthouse Building (including the District Attorney and Child Support Agency) will be similarly restricted, as the Courthouse building will be accessible by the public only during these times.

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that Sauk County Court operations will continue the regular hours of staff operations along with any judicial functions, including court proceedings, that can be conducted in compliance with the Wisconsin Supreme Court Orders In Re The Matter of Jury Trials During The COVID-19 Pandemic (Mar. 22, 2020) and In Re the Matter of Remote Hearings During The COVID-19 Pandemic (Mar. 22, 2020), and Sauk County Circuit Court Order Regarding Emergency Temporary Measures (Mar. 17, 2020).

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that this order will take effect at 4:30 p.m. on Thursday, March 26, 2020 and remain in effect until further ordered by the Court.

Dated this 26th day of March 2020.



Judge Michael P. Screnock
Presiding Judge
Sauk County Circuit Court