



ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICE of PENNSYLVANIA COURTS

NEWS FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

May 27, 2020

Supreme Court of Pennsylvania Ends Judicial Emergency

HARRISBURG – In an [Order](#) issued today, the Pennsylvania Supreme Court announced that the statewide judicial emergency will end effective June 1, 2020.

As part of its Order, the Court has directed that administrative orders issued by the intermediate appellate courts, as well as local emergency orders and directives, including those affecting time calculations and deadlines remain in full force and effect until they expire or are rescinded;

In addition, the Court's Order gives authority to president judges to extend or declare local judicial emergencies. In districts under local judicial emergency, the Court has specifically empowered president judges to:

- Limit in-person access and proceedings to safeguard the health and safety of court staff, users and the public;
- Suspend jury trials until they can be conducted within health and safety norms;
- Suspend statewide rules:
 - restricting the use of advanced communication technology
 - impeding local provisions for court filings by means other than in-person delivery
 - pertaining to rule-based rights to a prompt trial

Additional information about the impact of COVID-19 on court operations is available [online](#), at [@pennsylvaniacourts](#) and [@PACourts](#).

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