

**VIRGINIA: IN THE GENERAL DISTRICT COURT OF THE CITY OF VIRGINIA BEACH**

**IN RE: ORDER OF OPERATIONS DURING COVID-19 EMERGENCY**

Due to the current global COVID-19 pandemic and consistent with the Virginia Supreme Court's declarations of judicial emergency dated March 16, March 27, April 22, 2020, May 16, 2020, and June 1, 2020, and per Va. Code Section 16.1-69 (5), effective June 8, 2020, and continuing through June 28, 2020, the General District Court of the City of Virginia Beach will operate as follows:

- (1) **CRIMINAL CASES SET IN COURTROOMS 1 AND 2 WILL TAKE PLACE AS CURRENTLY SCHEDULED AT 8:30 A.M., 11:00 A.M., AND 2:00 P.M. ONLY THOSE PERSONS DIRECTLY INVOLVED IN THE CASES AS PARTIES, WITNESSES OR ATTORNEYS WILL BE PERMITTED IN THE COURTROOMS.**
- (2) **CASES SET IN TRAFFIC COURTROOM C WILL TAKE PLACE AS CURRENTLY SCHEDULED AT 8:30 A.M. AND 11:00. ONLY THOSE PERSONS DIRECTLY INVOLVED IN THE CASES AS PARTIES, WITNESSES OR ATTORNEYS WILL BE PERMITTED IN THE COURTROOM.**
- (3) **CASES SET IN CIVIL COURTROOMS A AND B WILL TAKE PLACE AS CURRENTLY SCHEDULED. ONLY THOSE PERSONS DIRECTLY INVOLVED IN THE CASES AS PARTIES, WITNESSES OR ATTORNEYS WILL BE PERMITTED IN THE COURTROOM.**
- (4) Felony bond hearings will be conducted at 8:00 a.m. in Traffic Courtroom D. Inmates will appear via video feed from the jail.
- (5) Misdemeanor bond hearings will be held at 9:00 a.m. in Traffic Courtroom D. Inmates will appear via video feed from the jail.
- (6) Arraignments will be held at 10:00 a.m. in Traffic Courtroom D. Inmates will appear via video feed from the jail.
- (7) Petitions for protective orders and for release of impounded vehicles may be submitted in person to the clerk's office between 8:00 a.m. and 4:00 p.m.
- (8) Petitions for emergency medical and mental health treatment may be submitted to the clerk's office between 8:00 and 4:00 p.m.
- (9) Garnishment exemption motions and summons on joint accounts may be submitted to the clerk's between 8:00 and 4:00 p.m. Hearings on said motions will be heard at 8:30 a.m. in Civil Courtroom B.

No persons will be admitted to the courtrooms of the General District Court for any other matters without permission of the Court.

**All persons entering the courtrooms or clerk's offices of the General District Court shall comply with the Judicial Emergency Order entered by the Supreme Court of Virginia on June 1, 2020, as it pertains to the wearing of face coverings.**

**ALL CASES SET IN TRAFFIC COURTROOMS A AND B THAT ARE SCHEDULED TO BE HEARD FROM JUNE 8, 2020 THROUGH JUNE 30, 2020 ARE HEREBY CONTINUED.** All parties to such cases will receive mailed notice of their new court dates. Parties may also go online to the case information tab at [www.courts.state.va.us](http://www.courts.state.va.us) to access scheduling information.

The Civil Division of the Court will accept for filing and processing new unlawful detainer cases so long as the return date on said case is after June 10, 2020 and further provided that if the basis of the unlawful detainer is, in whole or in part, unpaid rent, the plaintiff files an affidavit that the leased premises is not subject to the provisions of the CARES Act. The Court will accept all other new civil cases (such as warrants in debt and detinue, and garnishments) with return dates after July 1, 2020. Filing shall be made in person or by mail. Cases filed on or after June 8, 2020, that do not comply with this order will be returned to the filer to be re-submitted with a new return date.

Parties are directed to [www.courts.state.va.us](http://www.courts.state.va.us) for further information and updates.

Entered on June 1, 2020 by Daniel R. Lahne, Chief Judge