



ROOKER

MARCH 2020

REPORT

A MONTHLY PUBLICATION OF THE CIRCUIT COURT CLERK'S OFFICE OF METRO NASHVILLE-DAVIDSON COUNTY

CORONAVIRUS OUTBREAK

TENNESSEE SUPREME COURT ISSUES ORDER KEEPING COURTS OPEN BUT LIMITING IN-PERSON COURT PROCEEDINGS UNTIL MARCH 31

The Tennessee Supreme Court issued an Order on March 13 stating all Tennessee courts will remain open during the coronavirus outbreak, but suspending all in-person judicial proceedings through March 31, 2020. The Order applies to state and local Tennessee courts, including appellate, trial, general sessions, juvenile, and municipal courts.

The Order includes a substantial list of exceptions including proceedings necessary to protect constitutional rights of criminal defendants, such as bond-related matters and plea agreements for incarcerated individuals; civil and criminal jury trials that are in progress as of March 13, 2020; proceedings relating to orders of protection; proceedings related to emergency child custody orders; Department of Children's Services emergency matters related to child protection; proceedings related to petitions for temporary injunctive relief; proceedings related to emergency mental health orders; proceedings related to emergency protection of elderly or vulnerable per-

sons; and proceedings directly related to the COVID-19 public health emergency. In addition, other exceptions to the suspension of in-person court proceedings may be approved by the Chief Justice. Any permitted in-court proceedings will be limited to attorneys, parties, witnesses, security officers, and necessary persons as determined by the trial judge.

The Court's Order includes several other provisions to help alleviate hardships or unintended consequences caused by the suspension of non-essential, in-person proceedings. For example, deadlines set forth in court rules, statutes, and administrative rules, including statutes of limitations, that are set to expire between March 13 and April 6, 2020, are extended through April 6, 2020 and orders of protection that would expire between March 13 and April 6, 2020, are extended until April 6, 2020. The order expressly does not prohibit court proceedings by telephone, video, teleconferencing, email, or other means that do not involve in-person contact.

SEE PAGE 3 FOR ADDITIONAL INFORMATION REGARDING GENERAL SESSIONS ABBREVIATED DOCKET SCHEDULE, PROBATE COURT AND GENERAL PROTOCOL FOR ALL CIRCUIT COURT CLERK OFFICES DURING COVID-19 PANDEMIC

JURY TRIALS

CASE	TYPE	COURT	CIRCUIT JUDGMENT	GEN. SESSIONS JUDGMENT	APPELLANT
Week of February 3					
17C-1210	AUTO	5	PLAINTIFF \$750,00.00		
18C-526	AUTO	6	PLAINTIFF \$13,796.21		
17C-2084	AUTO	2	PLAINTIFF \$127,330.40		
17C-1144 (CONSOLIDATED 17C-1968 & 18C-1112)	GSA - AUTO	1	PLAINTIFF GILDERNICK \$314,703.19 PLAINTIFF FLEISCHMAN \$4,371.00	DISMISSED	PLAINTIFF
17C-604	BREACH OF CONTRACT	5	No RECOVERY - 50/50 FAULT		
17C-2247	HEALTH CARE LIABILITY	8	DEFENDANT VERDICT		

JURY TRIALS (CONTINUED)

**IF CASE WAS
APPEALED FROM
GENERAL SESSIONS**

CASE	TYPE	COURT	CIRCUIT JUDGMENT	GEN. SESSIONS JUDGMENT	APPELLANT
Week of February 24					
17C-2884	AUTO	5	PLAINTIFF \$18,000.00		
18C-2524	AUTO	2	PLAINTIFF \$46,233.34		
18C-988	AUTO	1	PLAINTIFF \$3,961.00		

NON-JURY TRIALS

CASE	TYPE	COURT	CIRCUIT JUDGMENT	GEN. SESSIONS JUDGMENT	APPELLANT
Week of February 10					
19C-462	METRO APPEAL	8	DEF. GUILTY CRIMINAL CONTEMPT (180 DAYS JAIL / SUSPENDED BUT 4 DAYS)		
19C-2902	GSA - AUTO	2	PLAINTIFF \$18,870.74	PLAINTIFF \$7,783.38	PLAINTIFF
19C-2402	GSA - CONVERSION	5	DEFENDANT VERDICT	DISMISSED	PLAINTIFF
19C-2403	GSA - CONVERSION	5	DEFENDANT VERDICT	DISMISSED	PLAINTIFF
19C-2404	GSA - CONVERSION	5	DEFENDANT VERDICT	DISMISSED	PLAINTIFF
19C-2789	GSA - DETAINER	8	PLAINTIFF POSSESSION	PL. POSSESSION	DEFENDANT
19C-2825	METRO APPEAL	8	METRO VERDICT		
19C-2548	GSA - CONTRACT	8	PLAINTIFF \$1,500.00	PLAINTIFF \$1,500.00	DEFENDANT
19C-1941	GSA - SWORN ACCT	2	PLAINTIFF \$6,396.68	PLAINTIFF \$6,606.19	DEFENDANT
19C-2725	GSA - DETAINER	8	PLAINTIFF \$1,140.00	PL Poss & \$2,240.00	DEFENDANT
19C-2260	GSA - Misc.	2	DENIED & DISMISSED	DISMISSED	PLAINTIFF
19C-790	ESTATE SUIT FOR ACCOUNTING & FINANCIAL RECONCILIATION	8	PLAINTIFF 2 LAPTOPS AND SECURITY DEPOSIT FOR OFFICE; DEFENDANT \$5,629.73		
19C-2188	GSA - CONTRACT	6	PLAINTIFF \$2,310.85	PLAINTIFF \$1,720.00	PLAINTIFF
19C-2454	CONTRACT	1	PLAINTIFF \$186,057.00		
15C-3078	DAMAGES HEARING	2	PLAINTIFF \$85,486.67 + POST-JUDGMENT INTEREST		

**GENERAL SESSIONS COURT APPROVES
ABBREVIATED DOCKET SCHEDULE
THROUGH APRIL 9**

The Metropolitan General Sessions Court, through an Administrative Order entered on March 16, has approved an abbreviated docket schedule in the interest of health and public safety. This schedule will operate through Thursday, April 9 with Friday, April 10 being a holiday. The only dockets open will be the following: (1) Felony & Misdemeanor Jail Dockets; (2) Domestic Violence Jail Dockets; (3) Orders of Protection; and (4) Emergency Psychiatric Committal Dockets. A determination will be made before April 9 whether to continue this abbreviated schedule.

**PROBATE COURT INSTITUTES SPECIAL
PROTOCOL DURING SUSPENSION OF
IN-PERSON COURT PROCEEDINGS**

Probate Judge Randy Kennedy issued a blanket order on March 17 referring certain cases to the Probate Special Master pursuant to the Tennessee Supreme Court order dated March 13 which does not prohibit court proceedings by other means that do not involve in-person contact and which does not affect courts' consideration of matters that can be resolved without in-person proceedings. A copy of this order as well as a comprehensive directive for proceedings in Probate Court during the suspension of in-person proceedings can be found on the Probate page of our website - - circuitclerk.nashville.gov

**GENERAL PROTOCOL OF THE CIRCUIT
COURT CLERK DURING SUSPENSION OF
IN-PERSON COURT PROCEEDINGS**

All of the offices of the Circuit Court Clerk will remain open on a limited basis during the suspension of in-person court proceedings. We will be here to serve and our employees will be onsite during regular business hours; however, person-to-person interaction will be limited. In addition, we will be available by phone, email and e-filing (to the extent it has been implemented).

A drop box is available outside each of our offices for filings and payments. Please call the individual office before leaving payments. Payments may also be made online at our website.

NOTICE FROM DAVIDSON COUNTY SHERIFF

We have received notice that the Davidson County Sheriff's Office, until further notice, has suspended the service of all civil process documents in light of the current situation involving the coronavirus pandemic. For exceptions and more information, please contact the Sheriff's Department.

**CONDITIONS SUBJECT TO CHANGE AS
SITUATION EVOLVES**

The situation involving the coronavirus pandemic is fluid and dynamic and subject to change as circumstances require. Any new updates will be posted on our website so please check back frequently.

AUTO ACCIDENT

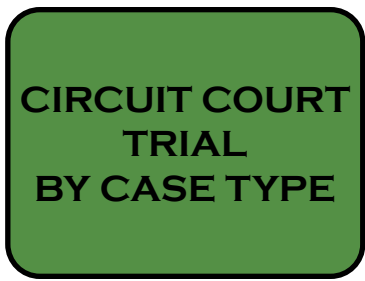
	FEB	YTD
Total Cases Tried	8	10
Plaintiff Verdicts	8	9
Defendant Verdicts	0	1
Other/Under Adv	0	0
Jury Trials	7	8
Non-Jury Trials	1	2
Appeal from G.S.	2	3
Plaintiff Verd.	1	1
Def. Verdict	1	2
Other/None	0	0

CONTRACT

	FEB	YTD
Total Cases Tried	5	8
Plaintiff Verdicts	4	5
Defendant Verdicts	1	3
Other/Under Adv	0	0
Jury Trials	1	1
Non-Jury Trials	4	7
Appeal from G.S.	3	3
Plaintiff Verd.	3	3
Def. Verdict	0	0
Other/None	0	0

HEALTH CARE LIABILITY

	FEB	YTD
Total Cases Tried	1	1
Plaintiff Verdicts	0	0
Defendant Verdicts	1	1
Other/Under Adv	0	0
Jury Trials	1	1
Non-Jury Trials	0	0
Appeal from G.S.	0	0
Plaintiff Verd.	0	0
Def. Verdict	0	0
Other/None	0	0



MISCELLANEOUS

	FEB	YTD
Total Cases Tried	10	16
Plaintiff Verdicts	5	10
Defendant Verdicts	5	6
Other/Under Adv	0	0
Jury Trials	0	1
Non-Jury Trials	10	15
Appeal from G.S.	8	9
Plaintiff Verd.	4	5
Def. Verdict	4	4
Other/None	0	0

DEPARTMENTS BY THE NUMBERS

CIRCUIT COURT

	FEB	YTD
New Civil Cases Filed.....	189	402
Jury Demand.....	124	270
Non-Jury.....	65	132
New Divorce Cases Filed	168	358
Domestic Petitions Filed	10	16
Orders of Protection Filed.....	58	142
Orders of Prot. Granted.....	19	42
Orders of Prot. Dismissed.....	49	138
Judicial Committals Filed.....	31	63
New Adoption Petitions	11	14
Civil Cases Concluded.....	188	464
Jury Demand.....	135	358
Non-Jury	53	106
Divorce Cases Concluded	175	355
Domestic Petitions Concluded	24	36

GENERAL SESSIONS-CIVIL

	FEB	YTD
Total New Cases Filed	3,943	8,452
Civil Warrants	1,911	4,077
Detainer Warrants	943	2,099
Recovery Warrants.....	6	27
Pet for Order of Protection.....	247	515
Orders Granted.....	62	129
Orders Dismissed.....	160	413
Emergency Committals.....	805	1,653
Immediate Possession.....	1	6
Sue & Attach.....	0	0
Petitions to Interplead.....	0	0
Counterclaims.....	5	16
Distress Warrants.....	15	49
Executions Issued.....	3,743	7,200
Garnishment Payments	3,489	7,323
Judgments Collected.....	\$958,690	\$2,013,813

PROBATE COURT

	FEB	YTD
Total New Cases Filed	173	415
Total Cases Closed	168	393
Probate Will	55	150
Probate Will for Muniment of Title	6	14
Letters of Administration.....	39	65
Small Estate Affidavits.....	34	87
Conservatorship.....	26	65
Guardianship of Minor.....	1	3
Name Change	7	17
Trust Matters.....	2	4
Other Miscellaneous	3	9

TRAFFIC VIOLATION BUREAU

	FEB	YTD
Total Traffic Violations	6,331	13,002
Moving Citations	2,279	4,420
Parking Citations.....	4,052	8,582
Environmental Citations.....	112	253
Civil Misdemeanor Citations.....	16	29
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Total Fines Collected	\$198,489	\$389,122
Nullifications.....	112	266
Nullification Fees Collected	\$1,345	\$3,192

CIRCUIT COURT
615-862-5181

GENERAL SESSIONS-CIVIL
615-862-5195

PROBATE
615-862-5980

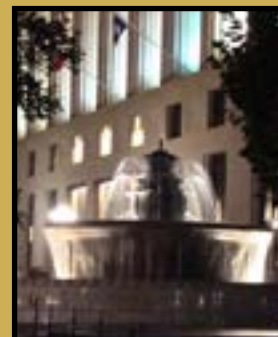
TRAFFIC VIOLATION BUREAU
615-862-5222

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(Circuit Court Clerk, 1968-1993)

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Kyle Sowell Editor



To request an ADA accommodation,
please call Dart Gore at 615-880-3309