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Morris/Sussex Vicinage Revises Some Court Operations Amid Second Wave of COVID-19 Pandemic

The Morris/Sussex Vicinage has revised certain court operations in response to the second wave of the COVID-19 pandemic.

Effective Nov. 30, the court will accept only child support cash payments in person at the finance windows in Morristown and Newton. The finance windows will be open on Fridays between 9 a.m. and 2 p.m. All other payments should be made online, by mail, or at an authorized retail payment site.

Reporting for some probation clients will be moved to exterior locations in Morristown, Dover and Newton, and curbside drug testing continues.

All court events currently scheduled for in-person proceedings inside the courthouses are being reviewed to determine whether they should be held virtually. Except for essential criminal, Children in Court, and juvenile matters, proceedings that require in-person appearances will be postponed until conditions improve. Virtual events will continue to be scheduled.

Emergent matters and applications for temporary restraining orders will continue to remain available at the courthouses or remotely. Court users who do not have access to the technology needed for a virtual proceeding may appear at a courthouse to participate in virtual proceedings through an available technology suite.

Virtual grand juries in Morris and Sussex counties will continue to meet remotely.

The vicinage has suspended criminal and civil jury trials in accordance with a Supreme Court order issued Monday in response to the resurgence of COVID-19.

The Morris/Sussex courthouses and Dover probation services will continue operations consistent with the health and safety guidelines of the New Jersey Department of Health and the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. All visitors to the courthouses are required at all times to appropriately wear compliant masks and maintain social distancing. Visitors seeking emergent applications or who have scheduled appearances but are ineligible to enter the courthouse because of illness, exposure to COVID-19, or travel, may call [the appropriate court division](#) to appear virtually, or to reschedule their matter without penalty.

For more information, contact Ombudsman Jennifer Shultis at 862-397-5700, ext. 75069.

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