# THE CIRCUIT COURT FOR QUEEN ANNE'S COUNTY ADMINISTRATIVE ORDER 22-03

## Resumption of Courthouse Operations

#### Move to Phase V

Whereas the State and Queen Anne's County is experiencing a decrease in the health metrics related to COVID-19; and

Whereas, Chief Judge Getty has issued several Administrative Orders filed February 18, 2022; and

Whereas, the public can review the particulars of those Orders on the Judiciary's webpage dedicated to COVID-19 on the Courts website.

It is therefore, by the Circuit Court of Queen Anne's County, hereby **ORDERED**:

- 1) The Queen Anne's County Circuit Court will adopt those Orders and shall begin to operate in **Phase V beginning March 7 at 8:00 am, being fully operational.** 
  - Electronic proceedings for cases may continue to be scheduled so litigants, attorneys, and witnesses can appear remotely. Requests for a remote proceeding shall be made by Motion. Notices will be sent in cases that the Court determines are appropriate to be heard remotely.
- 2) MDEC continues to be available for electronic filings. Pre-filing of exhibits for all proceedings shall be **five (5) business days** prior to the scheduled hearing. For those without electronic capabilities, a drop-box will be available for hand-delivered filings at the front of the Courthouse, or you may file by mail. If you have questions for the Clerk's Office, contact them at 410-758-1773.
- 3) Masking and social distancing are optional. Health screening questions at the front entrance will no longer be conducted. If you are sick, experiencing symptoms, been exposed, or are actively quarantining, you should not come to the courthouse.
- 4) The Family Law Clinic is fully operational. Litigants may contact Family Services at 410-758-0216 ext. 5128 for assistance.
- 5) All jury trials will resume March 7, 2022. Grand Jurors and trial jurors are not required to report until notified. Notices will be mailed with instructions or you can check the Court website for further instructions. Questions for the Jury Commissioner can be addressed at 410-758-1773 ext. 5149.

- 6) All previous Orders related to restricted operations are rescinded.
- 7) These restrictions will remain in place until we move into another phase and a formal Order rescinding this Order is entered.
- 8) Any violations of this Order maybe punishable by contempt proceedings and/or any other sanction permitted by law.

Lynn Knight, Administrative Judge

Queen Anne's County Circuit Court

February 25, 2022

## **ENTERED**

FEB 25 2022

Clerk, Circuit Court for Queen Anne's County

## ENTERED

FED 25 2022

Clerk, Circuit Court for Queen Anne's County