



**Press Release  
Joint Statement  
Monroe County and Monroe County Courts  
Monroe County, Michigan  
For Immediate Release Monday, March 16, 2020**

Effective at the close of business on Monday, March 16, 2020, all Monroe County facilities will be restricted to the public except for the provision of essential public services only until further notice.

Protecting the health and welfare of the residents and employees of Monroe County and the Monroe County Court System remains an overriding priority as we navigate a course through these unprecedented times. Our actions balance the interests of providing essential public services to our citizens and are ability to do so in a safe manner for our employees and public we serve. We also continue to strive to meet the Executive Orders of the Governor and guidance from public health professionals. The joint goal of the County and the Courts is to ensure the ongoing delivery of our core essential services during these unprecedented times.

Court users may receive notices by phone or regular mail. They should also check print media, radio, and internet sources for announcements.

County facilities will be restricted to the public except for the provision of essential public services only. Each facility will have a posting at the entrance with telephone and contact information along with the County Website address. The County and County Courts are promoting the use of access to public services through telephone, on-line services, mail and by special appointment with the public office/court. Each facility will have a posting on the front entrance providing contact information via telephone, email or website. Additionally, the County website includes all contact information on every office and court of the County including available on-line forms and methods to do business.

Page 2  
March 16, 2020

These actions are being taken out of an abundance of caution and prevention measures to assist our health care system in being able to manage the spread of the COVID-19 Virus in our community. We fully understand the inconvenience this may cause for our citizens and users of public services but only through these necessary measures can we ensure our best efforts to do our part as a community to protect the safety and well being of everyone.

Visit the Monroe County Website for all Court and public service information at [www.co.monroe.mi.us](http://www.co.monroe.mi.us)

*J. Henry Lievens*

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J. Henry Lievens, Chairman  
Monroe County Board of Commissioners

*Michael A. Weipert*

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Michael A. Weipert, Chief Judge  
38<sup>th</sup> Judicial Circuit Court

*Jack Vitale*

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Jack Vitale, Chief Judge  
1<sup>st</sup> District Court

*Cheryl Lohmeyer*

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Cheryl Lohmeyer, Chief Judge  
Monroe County Probate Court

**PRESS RELEASE CONTACT:**

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