

Pretrial Services

Administrative Safety Measures for 4th Floor Manor Building

- Only those with “court business” can access the 4th Floor. No friends or family can accompany defendants. This allows for social distancing and minimizing large crowds.
- All staff and visitors must wear a mask and adhere to social distancing measures.

Pretrial Supervision

Report in Person

- Defendants will be notified when the court reinstates reporting in person.
- Defendants will be seen as soon as they report to the office to eliminate people having to wait.
- A new supervision card will be given on each report to avoid chances of contamination.
- If you are sick, please stay home and contact supervision by phone at (412) 350-4735 for instructions.

Pretrial Electronic Monitoring

- Once electronic monitoring is reinstated as a bail condition, cases will be screened and placed on electronic monitoring in the order they were received.

Accelerated Rehabilitative Disposition (ARD)

- To verify the date and time for your ARD hearing please go to www.allegheycourts.us , Criminal Division, and follow the link to verify your court date and time through the Administrative Office of the Pennsylvania Courts portal.
- ARD probation violation hearings have been suspended until July 17, 2020. All ARD violation hearings that were scheduled during the judicial emergency have been granted an 18-month extension by Judge Borkowski. If you have any questions regarding your ARD plea or violation, please call (412) 350-4632.

Alcohol Highway Safety Program

Court Reporting Network Unit (CRN)

- CRN evaluations are currently being completed via phone. Once in-person evaluations resume the CRN Office will contact you to verify your appointment. If you have any questions, please call (412) 350-4632.
- Questions regarding full drug and alcohol assessments conducted by one of the DUI hospital-based programs can be directed to the program you were assigned to.

DUI Alternative to Jail Program (DUI Hotel)

- DUI Hotel dates cancelled: March 19, 2020, April 2, 2020, April 16, 2020, May 7, 2020 and May 28, 2020.
- The coordinator will meet with clients by appointment only.
- Appointments will be set up by the coordinator and maintained by the coordinator to reduce the number of people in the waiting area/lobby; anyone arriving without an appointment will be instructed to leave the building and call the coordinator for an appointment.
- Once the program dates are set clients will be contacted by the coordinator to set-up a compliance date.

Hotel Intake:

Upon arrival to the hotel clients will be pre-screened BEFORE intake and asked the following questions:

- Have you traveled outside the country in the last few months?
- Are you currently experiencing a fever, cough, or shortness of breath?
- Have you been exposed to anyone with the virus or to anyone whom has been experiencing similar symptoms?
 - If they answer “no” to all three they will proceed with the intake.
 - If they answer “yes” to any of the questions they will be turned away, at the discretion of the coordinator, and given instructions to call the courtroom on the next business day.
- Breathalyzers will only be used if necessary due to a client’s conduct.
- While waiting for intake, clients will wait in line with the proper social distancing and during luggage search, the client will sit six feet across from the staff while luggage is searched.

Allegheny County Ignition Interlock Program (Interlock)

- Interlock has not closed during the COVID-19 judicial emergency and has operated with normal business hours, reduced staff and modified operations as follows:
- Installations were suspended on March 25, 2020, as PennDOT was not issuing ANY provisional licenses. PennDOT resumed issuing provisional licenses with limited staff on April 27, 2020, and installations at Allegheny County Ignition Interlock resumed that week.
- Services listed below are available and by appointment only;
 - Monthly services, resets, installations and swaps.
 - Clients will remain in vehicle and instructed by office staff when to enter the garage; the technician will conduct service and office staff will take payment and schedule appointment; clients are not permitted in the office unless instructed.
 - Clients continue to pay for service as normal, leniency will be given for no show appointments due to COVID-19.
 - If client successfully complete the compliance check, they will only be charged for a maximum of seven days service after their successful compliance check.
 - After a successful compliance check, clients will not be charged for reset service.
 - For Interlock questions call (412) 931-6107.

Behavior Assessment Unit

In-Jail Competency Assessments

- The doctors are completing in-jail competency assessments via video.
- If defendants cannot be seen via video, or refuse the video assessment, the doctors will see the defendant in person at the jail, dictated by jail protocol.

Office Competency Assessments

- The doctors will continue their monthly in office assessments. If defendants have video capabilities, then these assessments will be completed via video, otherwise the doctor will complete the assessment in the office.
- To schedule a video office competency assessment, once the assessment was ordered by a judicial authority, contact (412) 350-2560.
- Defendants coming into the office will be asked screening questions prior to arriving at the office:
 - Have you traveled out of the country within the last few months?
 - Are you experiencing any coughing, fever, or shortness of breath?
 - Have you been exposed to anyone with the virus or to anyone whom has been experiencing similar symptoms?
- If the defendant answers yes to any of the above questions they will be rescheduled for the next office appointment date.
- Masks must be worn by all staff and defendant's coming into the office for any appointment.

Pretrial Investigators

- The bail investigators have continued to work 24/7/365, providing pretrial risk assessments for new arrests, bench warrants for failure to appear and ICC violations, throughout the Judicial Emergency. They also have continued to operate the safe surrender program remotely when appropriate.
- Questions regarding the safe surrender program can be directed to (412) 350-1229.

Bail Court Unit

- The Bail Court Unit has continued to operate remotely during the judicial emergency. Motions Court still occurs Monday through Friday via an audio hearing for bail modifications, revocations, extraditions and miscellaneous motions.
- For questions regarding bail modifications or revocations go to www.allegheycourts.us, Criminal Division, Bail Services, Bail Review Request protocol and form.
- We will continue to only accept bail modification and revocation requests via the Pretrial Service's email bin at PTSBail_Questions_Bin@allegheycourts.us.
- For miscellaneous motions, go to www.allegheycourts.us, Criminal Division, Miscellaneous Motions protocol.
- Once the court returns to in-person motions hearings, Pretrial Services will begin to accept in-person motions from attorneys and the safe surrender program may resume in-person.