

STATE OF LOUISIANA
PARISHES OF MOREHOUSE AND OUACHITA
FOURTH JUDICIAL DISTRICT COURT

IN RE:

FILED: _____

CERTAIN SPECIALTY COURT OPERATIONS
UNDER THE EXIGENT CIRCUMSTANCES
CREATED BY COVID-19 (CORONAVIRUS)

DEPUTY CLERK OF COURT

ORDER

Acting under the authority of Article V, Section 1 of the Constitution of 1974, the order of the Louisiana Supreme Court dated March 16, 2020, the order of the 4th Judicial District Court dated March 13, 2020 and the inherent power of this Court, and considering the recent outbreak of Coronavirus Disease 2019 (COVID-19) in Louisiana, Governor John Bel Edwards' declaration of a public health emergency in Proclamation Number 25 JBE 2020 and additional measures in Proclamation Number 30 JBE 2020, and President Donald Trump's declaration of a national emergency on March 13, 2020, and in consideration of public health recommendations to reduce the risk of exposure to the virus and slowing the spread of the disease while balancing the need to maintain access to Louisiana courts,

IT IS HEREBY ORDERED THAT effective March 16, 2020, 8:00 a.m. through April 10, 2020 at 5:00 p.m., the following orders apply to all specialty courts of the 4th Judicial District Court, excepting Reentry Court:

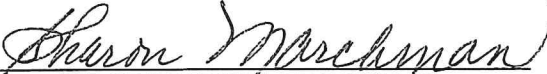
That all specialty courts including, Juvenile Court (Delinquency, CINC, and TPR matters), Juvenile Drug Court, Adult Drug and DWI Court, Adoptions, and Judicial Commitments will remain open on a limited basis during this pandemic for court settings restricted to matters pertaining to detained persons, continued custody hearings, initial appearances, emergency cases, and time-sensitive matters, with all other matters being reset by order;

Following the most recent recommendations from the CDC, the goal of this Court is to reduce the number of people in a space at the same time in order to reduce people's exposure to COVID-19 and the Court will take appropriate action to accomplish this goal;

That the Court will expand, to the extent possible by law and local rule, the use of audio and/or video conferencing, to include holding detention, continued custody hearings for

delinquency and child in need of care cases, emergency cases, scheduling conferences and meetings, and bail settings;

THUS DONE AND SIGNED in Monroe, Ouachita Parish, Louisiana, on this the 18th day of March, 2020.



JUDGE SHARON I. MARCHMAN
DIVISION B
FOURTH JUDICIAL DISTRICT COURT