



Tracey Lenox <tracey.lenox@gmail.com>

Re: [pwcbbar] GDC Emergency update through May 17

1 message

William Jarvis <wjjarvis@vacourts.gov>

Wed, May 13, 2020 at 4:05 PM

To: "tracey.lenox@gmail.com" <tracey.lenox@gmail.com>, "pwcbbar@mail-list.com" <pwcbbar@mail-list.com>

Good afternoon. For those wondering, the GDC closure notice contained in the above email dated 4/30 has been extended until June 7 with all of the same restrictions. That said, litigants are reminded that there are many "creative" ways to have cases resolved before the GDC officially reopens. Those options include agreed resolutions without either party being required to appear. Similarly, agreed live hearings (when necessary) can be scheduled any day at 1:30. A number of live preliminary hearings have already been accelerated to a 1:30 docket. Even if parties cannot agree, motions to have cases accelerated can also be placed on the 1:30 docket. Probably within the next week, we will publish a docketing schedule and description of how we will reopen and maintain social distance recommendations. Hope all are safe.

Will

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From: pwcbbar@mail-list.com <pwcbbar@mail-list.com> on behalf of Tracey Lenox <tracey.lenox@gmail.com>**Sent:** Thursday, April 30, 2020 12:13:13 PM**To:** pwcbbar@mail-list.com <pwcbbar@mail-list.com>**Subject:** [pwcbbar] GDC Emergency update through May 17

EXTERNAL EMAIL

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Hello all--

In case you missed it, here is the GDC guidance through May 17. As you can see, the Court is also developing a new schedule for criminal, traffic and civil cases going forward. I expect to see that additional guidance very soon, probably by tomorrow.

"The Declaration of Judicial Emergency in response to COVID-19 has been extended for the period through May 17, 2020. The General District Court will continue to suspend all traffic, criminal, and civil court dockets through May 17, 2020. The clerks' offices are open with limited staff to address essential case processing only which includes arraignments, bond motions, and protective orders. If your client is incarcerated and you feel his or her case needs to be addressed, we will be accepting emergency motions set on a 1:30 p.m. docket for status of the case and why there is a need for action to be taken at this time. You must provide a copy to the Court and notice to the Commonwealth Attorney's office.

The civil clerk's office is open with limited staff to accept civil case filings from attorneys and exemption hearing requests from defendants.

We are in the process of developing a new schedule for all traffic, criminal, and civil dockets and how we move forward in the future. We will be releasing the schedule next week once the plan is finalized. Please have patience with us as we work through assessing the case load and consider social distancing to protect the health and safety of employees, litigants, Judges, and the public.

Wallace S. Covington, Chief Judge
Rhonda A. Daley, Clerk of General District Court"

Hope everyone is doing well and staying safe.
Take care,
Tracey

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