MEDIA ADVISORY: March 20, 2020

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Community Relations & Public Information Officer

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Legal Divisions limit in-person hours to the public

Legal offices adapt to spread of COVID-19

As COVID-19 continues to spread, our Office adapts to new challenges while continuing to serve the people of Franklin County. As stated by Chief Justice Maureen O'Connor during Governor DeWine's press conference Thursday, the Clerk of Courts' Office is vital to the people's access to justice and to close our doors is not an option. That is why we must be creative and vigilant when our Office is operating at reduced capacity with limited staff.

There is no higher priority for this Office than the safety and well-being of our staff and the people we serve. With respect to the social distancing recommendation set by Governor DeWine, our Legal Divisions will be limiting in-person hours to the public. Electronic filings remain accessible 24/7.

Franklin County Clerk of Courts offices will be open to the public during the following times from Monday, March 23rd – Sunday, March 29th:

Legal Divisions

Appeals
General
Monday - Friday 8 A.M. - 5 P.M.
Monday - Thursday 9 A.M. - 1 P.M.
Domestic Relations & Juvenile
Monday - Thursday 9 A.M. - 1 P.M.
Juvenile Traffic
Monday - Thursday 8 A.M. - 10 A.M.

Auto Title Division

CLOSED to the public

General and the Domestic Relations & Juvenile Divisions have additional hours for bond postings, civil protections orders, and U.S. passport services Monday – Thursday 1 P.M. – 5 P.M. However, a call to our office must be made prior to entering during this time.

<u>Auto Title offices remain closed to the public</u>, however, people in need of auto titling services are encouraged to mail the appropriate documentation and payment to the Auto Title South branch:

Auto Title South 45 Great Southern Blvd. Columbus, Ohio 43207

For more information please visit <u>FranklinCountyAutoTitle.com</u> or call our Dedicated Auto Title Help Line at 614.525.3090 which will remain open Monday – Friday, 7 A.M. to 4 P.M.

To ensure an accurate transaction by mail, please call our Dedicated Auto Title Help Line and view our Titling-By-Mail checklist.

We will continue to monitor the spread of COVID-19 and update the public to any additional changes to our services on our website <u>Clerk.FranklinCountyOhio.gov</u> or you may call 614.525.3600, Monday - Friday 8 A.M. – 5 P.M.

The public is encouraged to conduct legal affairs online whenever possible.