

Bearing in mind that direction from the Supreme Court, the Governor, and others may be forthcoming which would alter the following, at 3:30pm on Monday, March 16, 2020, the plan for 5th Division Circuit Court, 20th Judicial District is as follows:

- 1) The pre-trial docket in Faulkner County set on Monday, 3/23/20, will be pared down in the coming days. Cases that do not require a hearing on 3/23/20 will be continued with speedy trial tolled pursuant to Rule 28.3. It is anticipated that most cases will be handled in this manner, but at this point, we reasonably expect a heavily pared-down docket for that day. Any attorneys, or parties, who have specific health concerns and would like their cases continued, if they are not already continued, may make a request and the Court will decide.
- 2) The only other court currently set for the week of 3/23/20 -3/27/20 is the domestic violence docket set for Thursday, 3/26/20. Likewise, are efforts being made to pare down this docket. It is anticipated that cases that do not absolutely require a hearing will be continued. Any attorneys or parties with specific health concerns whose cases remain on the pared-down docket may request a continuance.
- 3) This addresses current court settings through 3/27/20. It is likely that circumstances will change and this will need to be modified, and any such modifications will be disseminated via email, such as this.
- 4) We anticipate that decisions regarding the docket following 3/27/20 will be forthcoming as circumstances unfold.
- 5) Faulkner County Judge Jim Baker has issued a moratorium for the jury trials that are set for the next 3 weeks (3/16/20 – 4/3/20); therefore, Judge Foster's jury trials scheduled for April 2nd and 3rd will be continued.

Any questions or specific concerns may be addressed by emailing Jan or Shayla at jan.wilbanks@faulknercounty.org or Shayla at Shayla.maxwell@faulknercounty.org or calling the office phone 501-450-4925. If the office is closed and the office phone not answered, the recording will have cell phone numbers and directions for you to get your questions answered.

Thank you very much,
Circuit Judge H.G. Foster