

COMMON PLEAS COURT
MARION CO., OHIO

2020 APR 27 AM 10:50

IN THE COMMON PLEAS COURT FOR MARION COUNTY, OHIO
CLERK OF COURTS
GENERAL DIVISION

IN THE MATTER OF:

Case No. 2020 MS 0089

GRAND JURORS SERVING THE

Judge Warren T. Edwards

TERM COMENCING JANUARY 8, 2020

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This matter came before the Court upon the Marion County Prosecuting Attorney's Motion to Extend Service of Current Grand Jury and Replace Several Current Grand Jurors, filed April 7, 2020 pursuant to Criminal Rule 6.

With regard to the State's motion to Extend Service of Current Grad Jury, the Court makes the following findings:

The current Grand Jury's term commenced on January 8, 2020 and is set to expire on April 29, 2020.

On March 9, 2020, Ohio Governor Mike DeWine issued Executive Order 2020-01D declaring a "State of Emergency" as result of the COVID-19 (Coronavirus) public health crisis. On March 11, 2020, the World Health Organization (WHO) declared COVID-19 to be a global pandemic requiring "urgent and aggressive action" to control the spread of the virus.

On March 27, 2020, the court issued summons for 50 prospective grand jurors for the term begin May 6, 2020 ordering those prospective jurors to return their questionnaires within ten days of receiving the summons.

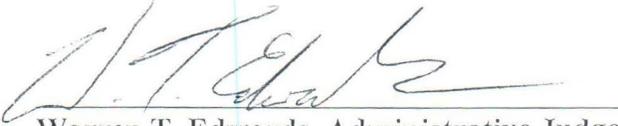
To date, the court has received 43 questionnaires back. 12 of the questionnaires were returned by the Sherriff unserved due to the address on file not being accurate. 10 of the questionnaires returned were statutorily excused from service, including reasons of age and death. Of the 21 qualified questionnaires returned to the court, 4 of the prospective grand jurors are 70 years of age or older, and an additional 6 are 60 years of age or older, placing them in a high risk category if exposed COVID-19.

THEREFORE, pursuant to Criminal Rule 6(G) and for good cause show, the Court hereby **ORDERS** the term of the Grand Jury impaneled on January 8, 2020 extended to September 1, 2020. With regard to the State's motion to Replace Several Current Grand Jurors, the Court further finds that one of the current grand jurors has expressed that the juror is presumptively positive for COVID-19, and two others are employed in the prison system where COVID-19 cases have been confirmed.

THEREFORE, pursuant to Criminal Rule 6(G) which reads in part "At any time for cause shown the court may excuse a grand juror either temporarily or permanently, and in the latter event the court may impanel another eligible person in place of the grand juror excused" and for good cause shown, the Court hereby **ORDERS** that those Grand Jurors who the Court finds to be a possible present health risk to others, or those who may, due to age or other condition, be in a high risk category if exposed COVID-19, will be replaced by the

prospective grand jurors who were initially summoned on March 27, 2020 for the term that was to begin May 6, 2020. Due to the need for social distancing, replacement Grand Jurors will be selected on Wednesday, May 6, 2020 at 8:30 am, at 100 Executive drive, Marion Ohio in the Harding Room.

THEREFORE, Pursuant to Revised Code 2301.04, the Court hereby **ORDERS** that the Harding Room of 100 Executive drive, Marion Ohio shall be deemed a courthouse during these proceedings on beginning at 8:00am on Wednesday, May 6, 2020 and shall cease being deemed at courthouse at 5:00pm on Wednesday, May 6, 2020. The Court's current location at 100 North Main St., Marion Ohio shall also continue to function as a courthouse during that time. This order shall be posted on the Court's website for a period of at least 30 days from its filing.



Warren T. Edwards, Administrative Judge

cc:
Ohio Supreme Court Chief Justice Maureen O'Connor
Marion County Commissioner Andy Appelfeller
Marion County Commissioner Kerr Murray
Marion County Commissioner Ken Stiverson
Marion County Sheriff Tim Bailey
Marion Police Department Chief Bill Collins
Marion County Prosecutor Ray Grogan
Marion County Bar Association President David Lowther
Marion County I.T. Director Keith Vanderpool