

JUDGE CHRIS M. GRIFFIN  
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The District Court of Benton County Arkansas  
State District I - Division I - Rogers

4/28/20

Re: Rogers District Court Rescheduling

To whom it may concern,

Due to the Arkansas Supreme Court's issuance of the Per Curiam Order delivered April 23, 2020, and the lack of clarity regarding what restrictions might be imposed on us during the "re-opening" process, I have recently signed an Order resetting any "in person" court appearances until after May 31<sup>st</sup>, 2020.

All Pro Se litigants will receive written notice of their new court dates and all represented parties will have notice sent to their attorney(s) in accordance with the terms of this court's Order.

Both City and County Prosecutors are still working and available for defense counsel to contact and attempt to resolve cases via written plea agreements. **It is highly encouraged for defense counsel to resolve as many cases as possible through written plea agreement without necessitating a court appearance regardless of how far out the case may be set.**

The Defendants will still be given the standard **14 days to appear to arrange their payments and public service.** The front windows of the court are still open and being staffed by the court clerks. Due to the fact that many of our public service work locations are not accepting workers at this time, the Defendants will be given a minimum of 90 days to comply with public service work requirements. Further, fines will not be set for a first payment until 90 days after their initial appearance **at the front window.**

The court will be monitoring the situation with the public service work providers and will be accommodating in granting extensions to resolve the required PSW, and fine extensions, for those that have exercised the initiative and resolved their cases without an appearance.

The court windows are still open Monday through Friday from 8:00am to 5:00pm so that defendants and litigants can come in and sign for extensions, continuances, and to file any motions.

Please see attached Order for more specific information.

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Chris M. Griffin", written over a horizontal line.

Judge Chris M. Griffin  
The District Court of Benton County AR  
State District I – Division I – Rogers

IN THE DISTRICT COURT OF BENTON COUNTY, ARKANSAS

STATE DISTRICT 1 – DIVISION 1 – ROGERS

RESCHEDULING ORDER

FILED FOR RECORD

APR 28 2020

THE DISTRICT COURT OF  
BENTON COUNTY, ARKANSAS  
ROGERS DIVISION

Now on this 28<sup>th</sup> day of April, 2020, comes the Court, Sua Sponte, for the sake of public health and welfare and, due to the unprecedented logistical issues facing our community stemming from the current health crisis and due to the Arkansas Supreme Court Per Curiam Order delivered on April 23, 2020, the Court hereby Orders the following:

1. All "Open Court" sessions between the date of this Order and May 29<sup>th</sup> are hereby cancelled. The District Court Clerk and her Deputy Clerks are hereby authorized to reset "payment due" dates and other due dates for "non-monetary Orders" for persons that appear in person in the lobby of the Court. Those continuances/"resets" shall be consistent with forthcoming verbal directions from the District Court Judge.
2. The Arraignment date of May 5<sup>th</sup>, 2020 is hereby rescheduled to June 9<sup>th</sup>, 2020. The 8:00am, 9:00am, and the 1:15pm docket times will not change. For the 1:30pm docket time defendants with the last name A-L will remain at 1:30pm. Last name M-Z will be reset to 3:00pm. The District Court Clerk shall undertake to notify any affected party via U. S. Mail at their last known address. Any Party that appears in person on the above listed Arraignment dates shall be notified in writing of the new court date listed immediately above.
3. The Arraignment date of May 12<sup>th</sup>, 2020 is hereby rescheduled to June 16<sup>th</sup>, 2020. The District Court Clerk shall undertake to notify any affected party via U. S. Mail at their last known address. Any Party that appears in person on the above listed Arraignment dates shall be notified in writing of the new court date listed immediately above.
4. The Arraignment date of May 19<sup>th</sup>, 2020 is hereby rescheduled to June 23<sup>rd</sup>, 2020. The District Court Clerk shall undertake to notify any affected party via U. S. Mail at their last known address. Any Party that appears in person on the above listed Arraignment dates shall be notified in writing of the new court date listed immediately above.
5. The Arraignment date of May 26<sup>th</sup>, 2020 is hereby rescheduled to July 7<sup>th</sup>, 2020. The District Court Clerk shall undertake to notify any affected party via U. S. Mail at their last known address. Any Party that appears in person on the



above listed Arraignment dates shall be notified in writing of the new court date listed immediately above.

6. The Arraignment date of May 28<sup>th</sup>, 2020 is hereby rescheduled to June 30<sup>th</sup>, 2020. The 8:00am and 1:15pm docket times will not change. For the 9:00am docket defendants with the last name A-L will remain at 9am. Defendants with the last name M-Z will be reset to 10:30am. For the 1:30pm docket, defendants with the last A-L will remain at 1:30pm. Defendants with the last name M-Z will be reset to 3:00pm. The District Court Clerk shall undertake to notify any affected party via U. S. Mail at their last known address. Any Party that appears in person on the above listed Arraignment dates shall be notified in writing of the new court date listed immediately above.
7. The Arraignment date of May 29<sup>th</sup>, 2020 is hereby rescheduled to July 14<sup>th</sup>, 2020. The 8:00am and 1:15pm docket times will not change. For the 9:00am docket defendants with the last name A-L will remain at 9am. Defendants with the last name M-Z will be reset to 10:30am. For the 1:30pm docket, defendants last name A-L will remain at 1:30pm. Defendants with the last name M-Z will be reset to 3:00pm. The District Court Clerk shall undertake to notify any affected party via U. S. Mail at their last known address. Any Party that appears in person on the above listed Arraignment dates shall be notified in writing of the new court date listed immediately above.
8. All "County Trials" set on May 21<sup>st</sup>, 2020 are hereby rescheduled to June 18<sup>th</sup>, 2020. The District Court Clerk shall undertake to notify any affected party either via U. S. Mail at their last known address, or facsimile and/or email in the case of represented parties. Any Party that appears in person on the above listed Trial date shall be notified in writing of the new court date listed immediately above.
9. All "Night Court" Arraignments set for May 20<sup>th</sup>, 2020 are hereby rescheduled to July 15<sup>th</sup>, 2020. The District Court Clerk shall undertake to notify any affected party via U. S. Mail at their last known address. Any Party that appears in person on the above listed "Night Court" Arraignment dates shall be notified in writing of the new court date listed immediately above.
10. All "County Plea Discovery" set for May 7<sup>th</sup>, 2020 are hereby rescheduled to June 4<sup>th</sup>, 2020. Defendants with the last name A-L will be set at 8:30am and last name M-Z will be set at 10:30am. The District Court Clerk shall undertake to notify any affected party via U. S. Mail at their last known address. Any Party that appears in person on the above listed "County Plea Discovery" date shall be notified in writing of the new court date listed immediately above.
11. All "County Plea Discovery" set for May 8<sup>th</sup>, 2020 are hereby rescheduled to June 5<sup>th</sup>, 2020. The 8am docket will be moved to 10:30am. The 8:30am docket will remain at 8:30am. The District Court Clerk shall undertake to notify any



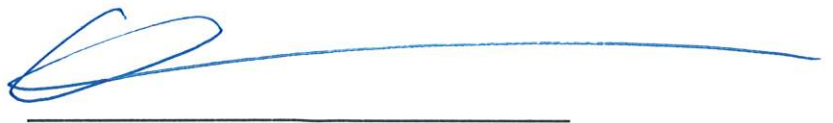
affected party either via U. S. Mail at their last known address, or facsimile and/or email in the case of represented parties. Any Party that appears in person on the above listed "County Plea Discovery" date shall be notified in writing of the new court date listed immediately above.

12. All "Interpreter Plea Discovery/Trial" set for May 13<sup>th</sup>, 2020 are hereby rescheduled to June 10<sup>th</sup>, 2020. The District Court Clerk shall undertake to notify any affected party either via U. S. Mail at their last known address, or facsimile and/or email in the case of represented parties. Any Party that appears in person on the above listed "Interpreter Plea Discovery/Trial" date shall be notified in writing of the new court date listed immediately above.
13. All "Conflict" cases set for May 20<sup>th</sup>, 2020 are hereby rescheduled to June 17<sup>th</sup>, 2020. The District Court Clerk shall undertake to notify any affected party either via U. S. Mail at their last known address, or facsimile and/or email in the case of represented parties. Any Party that appears in person on the above listed "Conflict" date shall be notified in writing of the new court date listed immediately above.
14. All "City Plea Discovery" cases set for May 14<sup>th</sup>, 2020 at 8:30am are hereby rescheduled to July 9<sup>th</sup>, 2020. Defendants with the last Name A-L will be set at 8:30am and last name M-Z will be set at 10:30am. The District Court Clerk shall undertake to notify any affected party via U. S. Mail at their last known address. Any Party that appears in person on the above listed "City Plea Discovery" date shall be notified in writing of the new court date listed immediately above.
15. All "City Plea Discovery" cases set for May 14<sup>th</sup>, 2020 at 2:30pm are hereby rescheduled to June 11<sup>th</sup>, 2020. Defendants with the last name A-L will be set at 1:30pm and last name M-Z will be set at 3pm. The District Court Clerk shall undertake to notify any affected party via U. S. Mail at their last known address. Any Party that appears in person on the above listed "City Plea Discovery" date shall be notified in writing of the new court date listed immediately above.
16. All "City Plea Discovery" cases set for May 15<sup>th</sup>, 2020 are hereby rescheduled to June 12<sup>th</sup>, 2020. The 8:00am docket will be moved to 10:30am. The 8:30am docket will remain at 8:30am. The District Court Clerk shall undertake to notify any affected party either via U. S. Mail at their last known address, or facsimile and/or email in the case of represented parties. Any Party that appears in person on the above listed "City Plea Discovery" date shall be notified in writing of the new court date listed immediately above.
17. All "City Trials" cases set for May 6<sup>th</sup>, 2020 are hereby rescheduled to July 1<sup>st</sup>, 2020. The District Court Clerk shall undertake to notify any affected party either via U. S. Mail at their last known address, or facsimile and/or email in

the case of represented parties. Any Party that appears in person on the above listed "Trial" date shall be notified in writing of the new court date listed immediately above.

18. All "Civil" cases set for May 20<sup>th</sup>, 2020 are hereby rescheduled to June 17<sup>th</sup>, 2020. The District Court Clerk shall undertake to notify any affected party either via U. S. Mail at their last known address, or facsimile and/or email in the case of represented parties. Any Party that appears in person on the above listed "Civil" Trial date shall be notified in writing of the new court date listed immediately above.
19. All "Small Claims" cases set for May 27<sup>th</sup>, 2020 are hereby rescheduled to June 24<sup>th</sup>, 2020. The District Court Clerk shall undertake to notify any affected party via U. S. Mail at their last known address. Any Party that appears in person on the above listed "Small Claims" date shall be notified in writing of the new court date listed immediately above.
20. All of the "Speedy Trial" time lost due to the above continuances shall be excluded from the time the State/City shall have to prosecute the affected cases per A.R.C.P. 28.3(h).
21. The Criminal and Civil Clerk "windows" shall remain open in the Courthouse during the pendency of this Order to allow the Court to accept payments, create continuances, allow public service to be turned in, and to otherwise deal with the day to day administration of the Court's functions.
22. All Defense Counsel, including the Public Defender, are encouraged to contact the Prosecuting Attorney's Office as they are still working and available for defense counsel to resolve cases via written plea agreements.
23. Per the Arkansas Supreme Court Per Curiam Order delivered April 23, 2020, if any party has a pending legal issue that requires the party to appear in person, please contact the District Court Clerk immediately to discuss the situation and determine what accommodations can be made.

IT IS SO ORDERED.



Judge Chris M. Griffin  
The District Court of Benton County AR  
State District I – Division I – Rogers