COMMONWEALTH OF KENTUCKY FRANKLIN CIRCUIT COURT MISCELLANEOUS ORDER 20-DIVISION II

ENTERED
MAY 2 9 2020
FRANKLIN CIRCUIT COURT

ORDER

This matter is before the Court *sua sponte*. Pursuant to the Supreme Court of Kentucky's Order (#2020-39) issued May 15, 2020, the Court hereby orders the following:

- Regular Motion Hours will be conducted using Skype or Zoom in Courtroom E on Mondays and Wednesdays at 9:00 a.m. If a party reasonably anticipates argument on a motion will require thirty (30) or more minutes, then the party shall request a separate hearing outside of Motion Hour.
- Pursuant to Rule 4.01 of the Local Rules, parties shall file notice, motions, and copies with the Clerk not less then five (5) business days before the date of a hearing.
- The Court will limit each Motion Hour docket to twelve (12) cases. In the event
 parties request a hearing during an already full docket, the Clerk shall instruct the
 parties to re-notice their motion.
- 4. The Court shall will establish a video session through Skype or Zoom scheduled for every Monday and Wednesday at 9:00 a.m. In addition to mailing addresses, each *movant* must include in their notice the preferred email addresses for all parties and all others receiving the motion. The Court will then use the provided email addresses to distribute the invitation to join the scheduled Motion Hour Skype or Zoom session. It shall be the duty of the movant to ensure that all parties have obtained the video conference link. The Court will distribute the Skype or Zoom

invitation by email on Friday for Mondays Motion Hour and Tuesday for Wednesdays Motion Hour.

5. All parties are to join the session at 9:00 a.m., just as they would be expected to arrive at the courthouse for ordinary Motion Hour. Upon joining the session, the parties must mute their computer microphones and wait for their case to be called from the docket. Parties shall unmute themselves once their case has been called and then proceed to present their motion.

6. Virtual Motion Hours shall be recorded.

7. To help mitigate the spread of COVID-19, parties are discouraged from using traditional paper filing and are strongly encouraged to use the "CourtNet 2.0" electronic filing system maintained by the Administrative Office of the Courts and the Franklin Circuit Clerk to electronically file all motions, responses and pleadings.

8. Any *pro se* litigant or a party unable to participate via Skype shall be permitted to physically appear in the Courtroom for Motion Hour so long as all public health guidelines are followed.¹

THOMAS D. WINGATE Judge, Franklin Circuit Court

¹ All individuals shall wear protective facial covering such as a mask, scarf, bandana, or other cloth which covers the nose and mouth. All individuals shall practice social distancing and maintain at least six (6) feet from others.