



COVID-19 UPDATE HOW THIS AFFECTS YOUR CASE

This is just a quick update to let you know how your case is being affected by the quarantines and business shut-downs due to the Coronavirus. The short version is CONTINUANCES. The courts are asking us to continue most cases as far out as June, 2020.

More specifically, Traffic Infraction arraignments and trials will be rescheduled for a later date, probably June or later. Misdemeanor and Felony arraignments will keep their scheduled appearance date. Most Misdemeanor pretrials and trials, and Felony pre-preliminary and preliminary hearings and trials are being rescheduled by the courts, at least into May if not further. We have been asked to waive time, though cases that urgently need to be resolved will be dealt with on a case-by-case basis by our office. Once we have new dates, we will update you. If your case is a Felony, we may be able to obtain permission from the court to appear without you present. (This is being optioned specifically for the duration of this crisis, and is still in development. Non-felony cases are already allowable as attorney-only appearances.) We will address this on a case-by-case basis when the time comes. Domestic Violence cases are being heard on schedule at this time.

If your case is being handled by us to help resolve a side issue, such as obtaining your driver's license, applying for residency, restraining order, etc., keep in mind that most government institutions such as the DMV are shutting down most of their services temporarily. What this means in practical terms is that there may not be an immediate answer on how soon these issues will be resolved. In the interests of due process, you can rest assured that these delays will not go on any longer than necessary.

As far as our office is concerned, we're still in business! We're in regular communication with the court about your case, and as soon as changes are made to our appearance dates, we will let you know. Feel free to give us a call with any questions, though a text may be easier for us, as it gives us time to look up your case as we're able, and then respond.

We're pretty proud of everyone for staying home as much as possible, and helping flatten the curve of this deadly virus! We'll be in the office most days, but our kids might be with us, so if you don't have to come in, feel free to call us instead. We can mail waivers (or email so you can print) for you to sign and return for appearances and pleas. We take payments over the phone for payment plans, or we can send an invoice for you to pay online, if you don't want to venture out with cash payments.

Stay well, and as always, drive safely!

Sincerely,

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