

**IN THE SIXTH JUDICIAL DISTRICT OF THE STATE OF IOWA
COUNTY OF LINN**

SUPERVISORY ORDER)
) **MISC.NO.** _____
LIMITING ENTRY TO)
)
LINN COUNTY COURTHOUSE)
)
DUE TO COVID - 19 VIRUS.)

Pursuant to the authority given to me as Chief Judge, and because of the COVID-19 situation, I find it necessary to provide you with the following directive for those people needing to enter the courthouse during normal business hours.

The public is not allowed to enter the Linn County Courthouse, except as set out below:

Emergency Orders – The public may come to the courthouse to get a domestic abuse protective order, or to get an involuntary commitment on someone for mental health reasons or substance abuse. A person coming for a domestic abuse protective order or attending a domestic abuse hearing may bring one non-lawyer person with them. Persons seeking an involuntary commitment may also bring a person with them as two affiants are required for these orders. All of these individuals should be directed to the Clerk’s office.

The public may come in for other emergency orders including hospitalization proceedings, elder abuse proceedings, dependent adult proceedings, motions to quash garnishments and landlord/tenant proceedings in which the landlord alleges that the tenant poses a clear and present danger. Some of these require two affiants as well. All of these individuals should be directed to the Clerk’s office.

The public may need to come to the Clerk's office to file something on the public terminal and/or leave payments or other documents in the Clerk's drop box.

The public may need to come to Magistrate Court for initial appearances. Any member of the public turning himself or herself in on a warrant may need to go to Associate Court to be seen by a judge for an initial appearance. Those coming for an initial appearance shall not be allowed to bring anyone in with them.

There also may be some hearings conducted that a person needs to appear for such as a plea proceeding or sentencing.

At the present time, if someone comes to the courthouse to make a payment, direct them to the Clerk's office.

No person under sixteen (16) years of age will be allowed in the courthouse unless they are a defendant in criminal or traffic court.

In conclusion, anyone coming to the courthouse should be able to tell security at the door why they are there. They may be directed to call the clerk or County Attorney. All who wish to enter the courthouse should be prepared to have their temperature taken by a digital thermometer and/or asked health screening questions. Sheriff deputies have the discretion to refuse entry to those who are showing signs of sickness or do not comply with this order.

IT IS SO ORDERED.

Dated: March 27, 2020



**PATRICK R. GRADY, CHIEF JUDGE
SIXTH JUDICIAL DISTRICT OF IOWA**

