Unless and until notified otherwise, we remain open to accept filings and conduct scheduled hearings and court appearances. We are nevertheless mindful of the public health concerns raised by the COVID-19 disease. Lawyers, their clients and the public must carefully monitor and evaluate their own health situations. The Court will grant requests if there are legitimate health concerns.

Please do not hesitate to bring any concerns or questions to the attention of our Court staff. This includes determining whether a personal appearance is required or if there can be other reasonable accommodations. An alternative to requesting a continuance might be possible under certain circumstances.

The Judge has the right to remove anyone from the court who is suspected of being infected or ill.

The bailiffs will limit the number of people entering the courtroom. Defendants may be divided into groups to enter the courtroom at staggered intervals.

Parties may be asked to return to their cars and return to the court when called so that a limited number of people will be in the courthouse.

## What if I need to pay a ticket or fine?

You can pay tickets online at www.vermilionmunicipalcourtpayments.com, by calling (440) 434-1488, or by mailing to 687 Decatur Street, Vermilion, OH 44089. The court staff does not take payments over the phone.

If you cannot pay a ticket or fine, please call the Vermilion Municipal Court at (440) 204-2430 to learn about other options such as setting up a payment plan.

## What if I have an appointment with my probation officer?

Please report per your regular schedule until contacted with more information. If you have questions or are not able to make an appointment, please contact probation at (440) 204-2468.

## What other steps is the court taking?

Vermilion Municipal Court is taking precautions to maintain a safe and healthy court environment for all court participants, visitors and staff in response to COVID-19. We actively coordinate with other governmental and public health agencies to ensure that we are following up to date guidance.

We are disinfecting doors and handles, and surfaces in public areas of the courthouse. Visitors are encouraged to make use of the hand sanitizer dispensers located in the lobby and courtroom.

As always, wash your hands often, avoid touching your face, and cover coughs and sneezes. Additional guidance on how to protect yourself and others is available by calling the Erie County Health Department at (419) 626-5623.

Due to the rapidly changing situation we will post updates as necessary.