



## Livingston County Circuit Court

204 South Highlander Way, Suite 5 • Howell, Michigan 48843

HON. MICHAEL P. HATTY  
*Circuit Court Judge*

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October 23, 2020

To the Livingston County Legal Community:

Throughout this pandemic, the number one concern of the Livingston County Courts has been, and continues to be, the health and safety of all who pass through our doors.

With the issuance of Administrative Order 2020-19 on June 26, 2020, Michigan courts were allowed to resume jury trials provided that, with mitigation measures in place, jury trials could safely be conducted without creating excessive risk to public health. Specifically, local data available on the MIStart Map must show a 7-day average in the county of less than 70 COVID-19 cases per million per day, and less than 10 percent positive diagnostic tests.

In anticipation of conducting the first jury trial on October 26th, the Courts consulted with partner stakeholders and took great care in preparing to safely conduct jury trials. Every aspect of a trial was considered and processes were developed to ensure the safety of everyone involved. However, after consultation with the Livingston County Health Department, the Judges have determined that because of the current impact of the pandemic on our community, it is not prudent to conduct jury trials at this time. Therefore, jury trials will be postponed until further notice.

Together with the Health Department and the State Court Administrative Office, the Livingston County Court will continue to monitor the local health conditions to determine when jury trials can safely resume.

This Court is dedicated to the efficient administration of justice and I would like close by thanking the Court staff and stakeholders for their continued work and effort in developing plans and procedures so that the mission of our Courts can be carried out safely for litigants, staff, and the community.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Michael P. Hatty".

Michael P. Hatty  
Circuit Court Judge  
Chief of the Circuit and  
District Courts