Inside New York City, most courthouses remain open at this time – although a number of steps have been taken to reduce traffic inside those courthouses for health reasons. Outside New York City, all court operations have been localized in a single court in each county. (List of Localized Courts and Locations). Judges and staff in all these courts are performing "essential functions" – court functions that cannot be postponed without serious consequences to the parties involved.

Essential functions in various courts include, but are not limited to, the following:

Supreme Court: Mental hygiene applications, civil commitments and guardianships, and others as the court may allow.

Family Court: Child protection proceedings, juvenile delinquency proceedings, family offenses and emergency support orders, and other as the court may allow.

Housing matters: Essential applications such as landlord lockouts, serious coded violations, and repair orders, and others as the court may allow.

New York City Criminal Court/City Courts: Criminal arraignments, requests for orders of protection, driver's license suspension lifts and emergency applications, and others as the court may allow.

All courts: Judges may determine that other individual matters are "essential."

Please note:

• **Jury trials** in progress in civil and criminal cases shall continue. However, no new trials will be started until further notice.

• **Special parts** – including motion parts, PC parts, compliance parts and others – have been suspended.

• Residential evictions, court-ordered auctions, and residential foreclosure proceedings have been suspended.

• **Rescheduling:** Parties will be advised of rescheduled Court dates when normal court business resumes.

• **Questions** about the status of any particular case should be made to the court, at telephone numbers listed at <u>the Court Locator</u>. However, please be advised that, during this health emergency, communications may sometimes be difficult.

• **Notifications** about updates also will be sent out via the New York Courts Alert Emergency Portal (to sign up to receive alerts, visit: <u>www.nycourts.gov/alerts/</u>)

• Access to New York State courthouses by persons who have been diagnosed with or are at risk of the coronavirus is not permitted. If you have a matter with a scheduled appearance, and fit into this health category, please call the court for further information.

• **Jury service:** While most jury service has been suspended, if you receive a juror notice in coming weeks, please follow the instructions set forth on that notice. However, if you are summoned to a (grand) jury, please be aware of the *restrictions* that apply to prospective jurors at risk of the coronavirus.

• If you believe that you are a victim of Domestic Violence or are in fear of your immediate safety, please call your local police department right away.

• Information about *reported coronavirus contacts in the court*

• If you have any questions relating to the coronavirus and the courts, please call the **Coronavirus Telephone Hotline at 833-503-0447.** For the latest information on coronavirus and guidance on how to protect yourself, visit: the <u>New York State Department of Health</u> or the <u>Centers for Disease</u> <u>Control</u>. The State Department of Health also has a coronavirus hotline at 1-888-364-3065. Your healthcare professional always is the best person to consult for questions about your personal health and well-being.