



**Commercial Collection Agencies of America  
Listing of Court Closures  
As of March 24, 2020**

**ALABAMA**

Alabama courts are closed except for emergency filings.

**ARIZONA**

Update

This update clarifies which businesses and operations would be deemed essential in the event that a shelter-in-place mandate were to be issued.

<https://azgovernor.gov/governor/news/2020/03/list-essential-services>

AZ courts are partially shutdown. They are still accepting filings, but most hearings, trials and activities requiring physical interactions are on hold until March 31, 2020.

**ARKANSAS**

Update-see attached

The courts of the State of Arkansas shall remain open. Nevertheless, pursuant to the Supreme Court of Arkansas constitutional superintending authority, to supervise the administration of the state judicial system, the Supreme Court of Arkansas has suspended all in-person proceedings in all appellate, circuit and district courts subject to the exception in a recent order (see Supreme Court of Arkansas attachment. The suspension shall last from March 18, 2020 to April 3, 2020.

**CALIFORNIA**

Update-see attached

The courts are shutting down here in California, they are expected to remain closed till the 1<sup>st</sup> of April .

Current closures and restricted schedules attached. Changes are daily. Counties not listed have not issued any orders (yet).

LOS ANGELES COUNTY has closed all courts as of today and through April 16 except for emergency hearings.

SANTA CLARA COUNTY has closed all courts as of yesterday and through April 6 except for emergency hearings.

RIVERSIDE COUNTY and ORANGE COUNTY court systems are closed.

## **COLORADO**

Update

Colorado's District Courts are currently empowered to determine responses to COVID-19 on a district-by-district basis. Current updates are provided by each district at: <https://www.courts.state.co.us/Courts/District/Choose.cfm>

## **CONNECTICUT**

Update-see attached emails

The first attached email reflects a court order regarding the suspension of foreclosures and evictions and the cancellation of all civil trials, trial management conferences, pre-trials, status conferences, J-ADR mediations and short calendars, arguable and non-arguable, have been cancelled until further notice by James W. Abrams, Chief Administrative Judge for Civil Matters.

The second email contains 2 pdfs – Section 2 of the first pdf is an Executive Order from the governor, which stops the running of various Statutes of Limitations; the second pdf, extends Supreme Court and Appellate Court briefing deadlines 30 days.

## **DELAWARE**

Update

On Sunday, March 22, Delaware Gov. John Carney issued modifications to his State of Emergency, ordering residents to stay home whenever possible and closing all non-essential businesses in response to COVID-19. Non-essential businesses can conduct the minimum necessary activities to facilitate employees of the business being able to work remotely or continue to work remotely from their residences

Update

Delaware courts have issued standing orders indefinitely postponing in-person court appearances. Motion hearings, status and scheduling conferences will go forward by telephone, if parties consent and the court has available staff to accommodate the hearing. Delaware bankruptcy court hearings are all telephonic and video conference accessible and will go forward pending availability of each necessary party and court staff. Below are the state court, bankruptcy court and federal court websites.

<https://courts.delaware.gov>

[www.deb.uscourts.gov](http://www.deb.uscourts.gov)

<https://www.ded.uscourts.gov>

## **FLORIDA**

Update

Miami Dade and Broward Counties closed until March 27, 2020. Palm Beach County open except Friday beginning March 27 to May 1, 2020.

## **GEORGIA**

Civil matters in Georgia courts are being postponed until after April 13 by Order of the Chief Justice. There may be a movement toward closing courthouses entirely, but that is not happening yet.

Most Georgia courts are open, but courts are not holding any hearings, trials, etc. for the next month or so. All courts are in the process of rescheduling any hearings scheduled for March. As of now, to my knowledge, all courts are open for filing. I've only received notification from one court that it is closing its doors, but it still will accept filings.

The Georgia Supreme Court entered an order on March 14, 2020 tolling all filing due dates and the statute of limitations through April 13, 2020.

## **HAWAII**

**Update-Stay at Home order**

<https://governor.hawaii.gov/newsroom/latest-news/office-of-the-governor-news-release-governor-ige-issues-statewide-order-to-stay-at-home-work-from-home-to-fight-covid-19/>

## **ILLINOIS**

**Update-Shelter in Place order attached**

Update

This is a good site that posts the updated orders for the Illinois Courts by County. You have to check often. They are updated frequently throughout the day.

<http://www.illinoiscourts.gov/Administrative/covid-19.asp>

The court systems remain open for emergencies and filing but the creditors will need to be informed that on all matters in suit, they have been continued 30-45 days generally while most courtrooms throughout the state have been closed. Despite the above, we can continue to file suits, motions and orders electronically.

In Cook, DuPage, Lake, Kane, Will and N.D. Illinois, most courts are closed to non-emergency matters for between four to six weeks, with the possibility of extending that closure depending on conditions. Farther out, some circuits remain open for the time being, though that will likely change when there are reports of the virus in those areas.

## **INDIANA**

### **Update-see attached Executive Order**

Update-click on link: <https://www.in.gov/judiciary/5578.htm>

At this point, debtor's exams are postponed for one month and jury trials are continued, but otherwise the courts have not shut down. And since we file electronically, there has not been much impact on moving the complaint and motions forward.

## **KENTUCKY**

Kentucky courts are not entertaining anything but emergency hearings for at least 30 days.

## **LOUISIANA.**

### **Update-**

Gov. John Bel Edwards issued a statewide [Stay at Home order](#) that goes into effect at **5 p.m. Monday, March 23**. It will remain in effect until the end of the night Sunday, April 12. The order will also be re-evaluated to determine the need for an extension.

## **MARYLAND AND WASHINGTON D.C.**

MD and DC are closed basically until further notice. But we can still file most things, they just have no court dates.

In MD all courts are shut down. No idea how long it will be but for now it is at least until April 6.

DC-2 weeks with limited emergency hearings

## **MASSACHUSETTS**

### **Update-**

Massachusetts Gov. Charlie Baker issued an emergency order requiring all businesses and organizations that do not provide “COVID-19 Essential Services” to close their physical workplaces and facilities to workers, customers and the public as of noon Tuesday, March 24 until noon Tuesday, April 7.

### **Update**

1. All trials are postponed until at least 4/21. No one is permitted to enter the courthouse except in emergency cases (restraining orders, criminal hearings). Any jury trials that have commenced are declared mistrials and will be rescheduled. Any cases scheduled for a bench trial will not go forward unless it can be done without appearances (I’m not sure how you try a bench trial remotely but that’s what the order says). I do not anticipate any non-emergency civil hearings or trials to commence until at least May.
2. All oral arguments at the Appeals Court are canceled. Appeals shall be decided on the papers only.
3. The Supreme Judicial Court just announced a new rule that the person swearing in a deponent at a deposition does not need to be physically present so long as s/he can verify the deponent’s identity and confirm visually and orally that the witness has been sworn.

Electronic filing of civil cases is still permitted.

<https://www.mass.gov/supreme-judicial-court-rules/supreme-judicial-court-order-limiting-in-person-appearances-in-state>

<https://www.mass.gov/news/trial-court-departments-issue-new-standing-orders-to-address-emergency-matters>

<https://www.mass.gov/boston-municipal-court-standing-orders/boston-municipal-court-standing-order-3-20-limiting-in>

<https://www.mass.gov/superior-court-rules/superior-court-standing-order-3-20-protocol-governing-superior-court>

<https://www.mass.gov/districtmunicipal-court-rules/district-court-standing-order-2-20-court-operations-under-the-exigent>

## **NEW MEXICO**

Update-

Order regarding non-essential services

<https://cv.nmhealth.org/wp-content/uploads/2020/03/SignedPHO03-24-2019.pdf>

## **MICHIGAN**

**Update-See attached Executive Order**

Our district courts are shut down pursuant to the Governors Order (see attached) and Circuit Courts are hearing emergency civil, criminal incarcerations and custody matters only.

## **MISSOURI**

MO- all courts are closed to court appearances – no call dockets, motions or trials until April 6 or perhaps later. In general, no new court dates are being set. The court houses are open and with available staffing processing work

## **MISSISSIPPI**

Mississippi courts are already closed except for emergency filings.

Mississippi is currently on a court by court basis

## **NEW JERSEY**

Update-click on this link: <https://www.njcourts.gov/courts/closings.html>

In NJ all in person court appearances are postponed. The court is in session but no appearances other than by telephone.

I suspect we will get a new directive tomorrow probably closing the court houses. I will supplement as new information becomes available.

## **NEW YORK**

Update

**See the latest Administrative Order attached.**

## **PENNSYLVANIA**

Update

This link has the latest: <http://www.pacourts.us/ujs-coronavirus-information>

Local courts are already closed for two weeks to a month. May go county by county thereafter

In PA, the major city courts have shut down and most counties are closing. A few remain open. CO remain open for now. This is changing by the hour.

### **NEVADA**

Nevada Courts Partially Shut down. District Court hearing suspended. Justice Court (\$15,000 and under) no defaults or writs of execution until 4/20.

### **NORTH CAROLINA**

On March 13, 2020, Chief Justice Cheri Beasley (North Carolina) entered an order implementing measures designed to curb the spread of COVID-19 and minimize the risk of exposure caused by crowded sessions of court. Consistent with the Chief Justice's order, effective Monday, March 16, superior court and district court proceedings will be rescheduled for at least 30 days. All District Court Arbitrations will be rescheduled beyond 30 days.

### **OHIO**

**Update-see attached order**

Update-this link shows the latest:

<https://www.bricker.com/resource-center/COVID19/key-resources/resource/ohio-court-tracker-the-impact-of-covid-19-1119>

Courts in Ohio are not entertaining anything but emergency hearings for at least 30 days.

### **SOUTH CAROLINA**

Update

All hearings have been postponed until May, but all courts are still accepting filings.

### **TEXAS**

Shut down for entry; can e file. No trials or hearings until further notice . Many courts in Texas are closed for at least two weeks for jury and bench trials. Some courts are still conducting hearings and many courts are considering routine matters by submission. With 254 counties to monitor, things change rapidly as each court within each county sets its own rules.

### **TENNESSEE**

Tennessee is shut down through March 31, 2020

## **VIRGINIA**

VA-same as MD-3 weeks at least

In VA, courts just closed and that should last at least until April 6<sup>th</sup>, 2020.

## **WASHINGTON STATE**

Update

Order from Governor

<https://medium.com/wagovernor/inslee-announces-stay-home-stay-healthy-order-4891a7511f5e>

As of March 19, 2020, Washington Courts – by order of the Washington Supreme Court – are effectively shut down.

Documents can be filed that don't require Judge's signatures. So, attorneys can start lawsuits, but can't default, etc.

Here is a link to all the closures in WA, if you care to see it:

<https://www.courts.wa.gov/index.cfm?fa=home.courtClosures>

## **WEST VIRGINIA**

Update

Stay at Home Order-<https://dhhr.wv.gov/COVID-19/Pages/Governor-Issues-Stay-at-Home-Order.aspx>

WV Courts are continuing to operate, however hearings scheduled between 3/16/20 – 4/10/20 will be telephonic only

## **WISCONSIN**

### **UPDATE**

See the attached order.