

IN THE COURT OF COMMON PLEAS OF LANCASTER COUNTY, PENNSYLVANIA  
SECOND JUDICIAL DISTRICT

IN RE: AMENDMENT TO  
ADMINISTRATIVE ORDER  
NO. 3-2021 LIMITING PUBLIC  
ACCESS TO COURTS

: No. A.D. LD-2021  
:  
:  
:  
: Supreme Court Docket No. 44 MM 2020

**ADMINISTRATIVE ORDER**

**AND NOW**, this 21<sup>st</sup> day of January, 2021, it is hereby ORDERED that  
Administrative Order No. 3-2021, Paragraph 3(o), is AMENDED as follows:

3. The following Court proceedings are deemed to be emergency in nature and  
will be handled in person *only if there is no other alternative*:

- o. Preliminary hearings for incarcerated individuals shall be scheduled in  
accordance with Pa.R.Crim.P. No. 540 and all parties for the initial listing  
shall participate via advanced communication technology.
  - i. Notice of the date and time for the initial listing of a preliminary  
hearing shall be provided to the Attorney for the  
Commonwealth, Defense Counsel, and the defendant. No  
subpoenas shall be issued to any witness for the initial listing of  
a preliminary hearing.
  - ii. If, at the initial proceeding, a defendant requests a preliminary  
hearing, the case shall be continued to a subsequent block at  
the discretion of the Magisterial District Judge after consultation  
with counsel. The Magisterial District Court shall then send  
subpoenas to all witnesses. The Attorney for the  
Commonwealth and Defense Counsel, during the period of  
continuance, shall undertake all reasonable efforts to arrange a  
remote proceeding. The time period from the initial proceeding  
to the subsequent proceeding shall be attributable to the Court  
for the purposes of arranging a remote proceeding utilizing  
advanced communication technology.
  - iii. If, at the subsequent hearing, the Commonwealth is prepared  
to proceed remotely, but the defendant objects to a remote  
proceeding, the continuance shall be charged to the defendant  
until such time that an in-person hearing can be arranged  
safely and in accordance with the guidelines of the Centers for  
Disease Control and the Pennsylvania Department of Health for  
COVID-19 mitigation.
  - iv. If, at the subsequent hearing, the affiant(s), witness(es) and/or  
victim(s) cannot participate remotely due to logistical or

CLERK OF COURTS

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LANCASTER COUNTY, PA

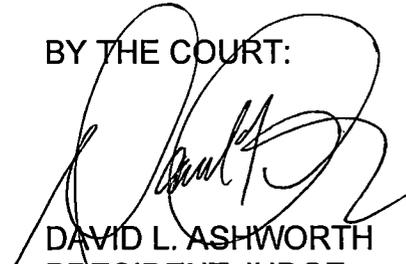
technical difficulties, the case shall proceed to be heard with all/some parties present in the Magisterial District Court during the designated Criminal Block with the defendant participating remotely.

- v. The Commonwealth shall notify the Magisterial District Court 24 hours in advance of the subsequent hearing if it is intending to proceed remotely or if the case will require all/some parties to be present in the Magisterial District Court.

The rest and remainder of Administrative Order No. 3-2021 shall remain in full force and effect as imposed on January 5, 2021.

This Administrative Order shall be effective January 25, 2021, and shall remain in effect through February 12, 2021, or until further order of this Court.

BY THE COURT:



DAVID L. ASHWORTH  
PRESIDENT JUDGE

ATTEST:

Copies to:

- Lancaster County Board of Judges
- Lancaster County Magisterial District Judges
- Lancaster County District Court Administrator
- Lancaster County Adult Probation & Parole Services
- Lancaster County Children and Youth Social Service Agency
- Lancaster County Clerk of Courts
- Lancaster County Clerk of the Orphans' Court
- Lancaster County District Attorney
- Lancaster County Domestic Relations
- Lancaster County Juvenile Probation
- Lancaster County Law Library
- Lancaster County Office of Official Court Reporter
- Lancaster County Prison
- Lancaster County Prothonotary
- Lancaster County Public Defender
- Lancaster County Register of Wills
- Lancaster County Sheriff
- Lancaster County Board of Commissioners
- Lancaster County Solicitor
- Lancaster County Municipal Police Departments
- Pennsylvania State Police