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JUDICIAL BRANCH OF THE NAVAJO NATION

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<http://www.navajocourts.org>

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

DATE: Thursday, July 9, 2020

PUBLIC SERVICE ANNOUNCEMENT FROM WINDOW ROCK JUDICIAL DISTRICT

The Window Rock Court building is temporary closed to the public from July 8-10, 2020; however the Court continues to provide services to the public from the former Supreme Court hearing room at the Butler building. All necessary hearings will be held by telephone conference until further notice. In-person filing will not be available until further notice.

Services available include:

- Domestic Abuse and Vulnerable Adult Protection Orders (Petitions and enforcement);
- Children's cases involving detained juveniles and abused or neglected children;
- Habeas Corpus and other complaints for injunctive relief;
- Criminal proceedings concerning incarcerated defendants (arraignment and bail) and Bench Warrant Hearings on outstanding bench warrants;
- Processing of payments for civil and criminal fees and fines;
- Other matters involving public health and safety during the State of Emergency.

The Court will accept all new filings, and schedule matters based upon whether they fall into the essential case categories listed above. Anyone whose case is delayed or set for hearing on the basis that it is a non-essential case can file a Motion asking the Court to schedule their hearing as essential, and explain why an urgent hearing is needed.

Documents may be filed with the Court by email, mail, or drop box. In-person filing and/or filing by fax will not be available until further notice. Email filing is permitted until further notice by Administrative Order of the Chief Justice of the Navajo Nation, Order 14-2020.

Documents filed with the Court by email or drop box outside Court hours will be received the next Court day during normal Court hours (Monday-Friday, 8 a.m. to 5 p.m.).

To file by email, email document as a .pdf to: nnwrcourt@navajo-nsn.gov, with "For Filing" in the subject line of the email. After doing so, call the Court at (928) 206-7469 or (928) 871-6626 to verify your email address and confirm receipt of your document. Emails may be lost in the Navajo Nation's spam filters if not verified.

To file by mail, mail document to: Window Rock District Court, P.O. Box 5520, Window Rock, AZ 86515.

To file by drop box, drop the document in the designated drop box located next to the main entrance of the Administrative Office of Court in Window Rock.

For protection orders, there is a downloadable Petition for Domestic Abuse Protection Order with Motion for Ex-Parte Temporary Protection Order available on the Navajo Nation Court website at: <http://www.navajocourts.org/>. If an emergency protection order is needed on a weekend or holiday, please contact the Window Rock Police Department for assistance.

After filing a Petition for a Protection Order, call the Court to confirm receipt of your Petition. The Court Clerk will verify signature over the phone if it is not notarized, or take a verbal oath of verification of the petition if it was submitted without a handwritten signature.

For scheduled court hearings, call the Court at (928) 206-7469 or (928) 871-6626 before the scheduled hearing to confirm that it is taking place and for instructions on how to appear by telephone. Individuals who have legal counsel should communicate with them before calling the Court.

For bench warrants for failure to appear at a previous hearing, call the Court to provide updated contact information. A bench hearing will be scheduled. Individuals who have legal counsel should communicate with their legal counsel but may contact the Court if contact information is needed.

To pay any fine or fee, mail a money order payable to the "Navajo Nation-Window Rock Court" to: Window Rock District Court, P.O. Box 5520, Window Rock, AZ 86515. Include citation/court document and contact information. All fines or fees mailed will be processed as received on the postmarked date.

For any questions or more information, please contact the Court at (928) 206-7469 or (928) 871-6626.

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