

Middlesex General District Court – Re-Opens for Non-Emergency Matters on Monday, May 18, 2020:

The Middlesex General District Court will begin a gradual return to routine operations on May 18, 2020. The authority to hear non-emergency matters was conveyed to the General District Court by the May 6, 2020 Order of the Chief Justice of the Supreme Court of Virginia.

Please review the attached order from the Middlesex General District Court regarding continued COVID-19 emergency measures.

Based on this Order and the instructions of the Presiding Judge, members of the public may expect the following:

- If you have been ill, have recently travelled internationally, have been exposed to COVID-19, or live with someone who has been exposed to COVID-19, call the Clerk's Office at 804-758-4312 before your scheduled Court date.
- The number of people in the courtroom at any one time will be limited and social distancing required. Please plan to follow the directions of the Sheriff's Office when you arrive at the courthouse.
- We ask that you wear a mask or face covering. Inappropriate, offensive or distracting face masks are not permitted.
- Space limitations may require that certain security screenings, paperwork or meetings occur outside. As well, the new safety procedures may result in a line or wait before entering the courtroom. Please arrive prepared for inclement weather.
- For now, only the parties, witnesses, attorneys, court reporters, interpreters, press and court watch groups are allowed in the courtroom. Spectators are not allowed.
- Civil matters, including, garnishments may be filed immediately. Unlawful Detainers may be filed on or after June 1, 2020 and must be accompanied by a CARES Act affidavit.

We appreciate your patience and cooperation as we navigate these unique challenges and work to safely provide access to justice.