



FRANKLIN COUNTY MUNICIPAL COURT
Court Administration
375 South High Street, 10th Floor
Columbus, Ohio 43215-4520

NEWS RELEASE

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Contact: Jay Dascenzo
Public Information Contact
(614) 579-6906
jay@dascenzocreative.com

Franklin County Municipal Court To Resume Eviction Filings

CDC Director Dr. Rochelle Walensky signed a new eviction moratorium order on August 3, 2021 to temporarily halt evictions in counties with “substantial and high levels” of COVID-19 virus transmissions until October 3, 2021. The previous CDC eviction moratorium expired on July 31, 2021.

However, on July 23rd the Sixth Circuit Court of Appeals in Cincinnati ruled that the CDC lacked authority for the national moratorium it imposed last year on most residential evictions to help curb the spread of the coronavirus. The unanimous decision by the three-judge panel upheld a lower court ruling in March finding the CDC overstepped its authority when it issued the moratorium last year. The result is that Courts in Tennessee, Kentucky, Ohio, and Michigan are no longer bound by the moratorium.

In accordance with the ruling of the Sixth Circuit Court of Appeals, the Franklin County Municipal Court will not follow the eviction moratorium order issued by the CDC on Tuesday. To that end, the Franklin County Municipal Court is legally required to follow that Court’s decision and will accept and process eviction filings.

The Court will continue its efforts to mitigate the impact that evictions have on the community. The Court has continued to foster its relationships with housing advocacy partners such as Legal Aid’s Tenant Advocacy Project, Impact, Job and Family Services, and Community Mediation Services. The Court has also recently secured funding to increase staffing at its Self Help Resource Center, which assists unrepresented tenants. It is imperative that tenants come to Court when summonsed where they will be linked with resources that may provide financial and free legal assistance. In doing so, renters have a much greater opportunity and likelihood to bring their rent current and avoid eviction.

The Court understands that COVID-19 has presented a historic threat to the nation’s public health. Accordingly, the Court has been tirelessly working to facilitate renters’ access to mediators, monetary assistance, free legal advice, and much more. These resources are consolidated and available in a conveniently accessible area Monday through Friday between 9:00 am and 12:00 pm on the 11th floor of the Courthouse.

For more information about the Franklin County Municipal Court and the resources available to tenants, please visit <https://municipalcourt.franklincountyohio.gov/Courts/Eviction-Court>.