

## Harrison County Commission

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HARRISON COUNTY COURT HOUSE

## NEWS RELEASE Harrison County Commission

Immediate Release March 19, 2020

Our goal is to take measures needed that will protect our staff and the public to get us through this difficult time and help us get back to normalcy. To accomplish this goal we are working with various local, state and federal agencies to protect the public and our employees.

Therefore, at this time, the county offices will remain open during normal business hours. Harrison County officials will take measures to limit and restrict public access to the Harrison County Courthouse. As of Monday, March 23<sup>rd</sup>, only fifteen (15) individuals will be granted access at one time. Others will wait until the number of individuals inside go below that limit. Depending on on-going circumstances access may be further limited or restricted. This restriction limit will not apply to mandated court or judicial appearances.

Before entering the facility, individuals will be questioned as to recent travel, exposure to other individuals that may have shown symptoms of the Coronavirus. In addition, security personnel will utilize non-contact thermometers to obtain an individual's body temperature. Individuals may be restricted from entering the facility to safeguard the public and employees.

Public access for offices or departments located in the annex (Voters Department – Magistrate Court – Family Court) will enter and exit the building from the 3<sup>rd</sup> Street entrance. A security point will be established for individuals entering the facility. Any individual that requires ADA accessibility will need to enter via the front entrance of the courthouse.

Regarding voting for the May primary, Harrison County officials encourage individuals to contact the Voters Division with the Office of County Clerk (Address: 301 West Main Street, Clarksburg, West Virginia 26301 or call 304-624-8613 to request an absentee ballot. This will assist in limiting exposure for the voting public as well as poll workers.

If you are feeling sick or if you have come into contact with anyone who is sick or has a reason to believe that they may have been exposed to the Coronavirus we ask that you not enter county offices. Rather than coming in person we want to highly encourage the public to call our offices for information, use regular mail, email and the Harrison County Commission website for information. You can access all the online services we provide for payment of taxes, research of records and mapping information. If tax payments are made online, Harrison County officials are exploring the possibility of a fee waiver or reimbursement to the taxpayer. Please check the county website for updates. Also, email information, mailing addresses and telephone numbers for county offices and telephone numbers for other county agencies and municipalities are available on the website at <a href="https://www.harrisoncountywv.com">www.harrisoncountywv.com</a>.

Just a reminder that this situation is very fluid, things are changing sometimes within hours so we anticipate other measures may need to be taken.