

VERMONT SUPERIOR COURT  
WINDSOR UNIT  
CIVIL DIVISION

**STANDING ORDER**

We are facing unprecedented times. The Court concludes that it has an obligation to manage its docket to take account of effects caused by the COVID-19 pandemic, the Governor's "stay-at-home" order, the dramatic impacts upon individuals and businesses in our community, and the many challenges to doing business as usual for litigants, the legal profession, and the courts. Accordingly, the Court issues the following Standing Order:

1. This Order is applicable to cases in the Vermont Superior Court, Windsor Civil Division, only.
2. The Court hereby extends all unexpired deadlines in Rule 16.2 discovery schedules, other than trial-ready dates, for 90 days. The parties may by stipulation lengthen or shorten this extension by no more than 60 days.
3. Due to the Governor's stay-at-home order, no one should be out in the community to attend a foreclosure sale. The Court hereby stays all scheduled foreclosure sales and deadlines to conduct such sales for 90 days.
4. Because it will likely be impossible for residents to find new housing during the Governor's stay-at-home order, and because evictions will require that people to leave their residences to seek housing or to become homeless which will likely increase the risk of spreading COVID-19 in the community, the Court will defer action on any motion seeking a writ of possession until expiration of the current Judicial Emergency. Exceptions may be made by motion if the motion is: (1) designated as an emergency and accompanied by an affidavit establishing the need for emergency relief, or (2)

accompanied by an affidavit providing sufficient facts to establish that the writ will not cause anyone to become homeless during this emergency.

5. The Court may extend, expand upon, or reconsider this Order as circumstances dictate.
6. Any party seeking an exception to this Order may file a motion, supported by an affidavit setting forth specific facts supporting the requested relief.

Dated at Hartford, Vermont, this 31st day of March, 2020.

Electronically signed: 3/31/2020 10:50:39 AM pursuant to V.R.E.F. 9(d)

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "RSG", written over a horizontal line.

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Robert P. Gerety, Jr.  
Superior Court Judge