
ORDER REGARDING WARRANTS

Whereas the Dane County judiciary has issued an Order Regarding Temporary Emergency Measures in light of the COVID-19 issue,

Whereas, there are outstanding Dane County warrants within the criminal justice system,

Whereas, the Dane County Sheriff requests consideration of limiting the circumstances under which individuals must be booked into the jail in order to protect the health and safety of the current jail population as well as the deputies and staff working in the jail,

Whereas, balancing the health of the jail community and the safety of the victims and community, the court issues the following order:

ORDER

If a Dane County warrant is on file for a person who is having contact with Law Enforcement, and that contact will not otherwise result in a decision to arrest and book into jail, the officer **may exercise discretion** to release the person after obtaining up to date contact information. The officer will then generate a report of the contact with current address and phone number and send a copy to the Dane County Sheriff's Office-Warrants Division. The report will constitute service of the warrant. The warrant with a copy of the report attached will be promptly provided to the Dane County Clerk of Court's Office which will then arrange for further scheduling.

This order **ONLY** applies to the following categories of cases:

All misdemeanors with the exception of those with a domestic surcharge.

Class H and I Felonies which are solely property or drug-related. Cases charged under Chapter 940 or Chapter 948 and felony OWIs are specifically excluded.

Further, a court commissioner or judge, reviewing an otherwise valid request for a warrant, may elect to delay the issuance of the warrant until after the expiration of the Order Regarding Temporary Emergency Measures.

Date: March 26, 2020

BY THE COURT:

V.L. Bailey-Rihn

Judge Valerie Bailey-Rihn
Presiding Judge