

**MEDINA COUNTY COURT OF COMMON PLEAS
DOMESTIC RELATIONS DIVISION
99 Public Square, 2nd Floor
Medina, Ohio 44256**

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Contact: Daniel F. Maynard, Court Administrator
Phone: 330-764-8154
Email: dmaynard@medinaco.org

Date: April 14, 2020

**Subject: Judge Mary Kovack, Medina County Domestic Relations Court
awarded \$11,026.14 technology grant from the Ohio Supreme Court**

On April 13, 2020, Judge Mary Kovack and the Medina County Court of Common Pleas, Domestic Relations Division was awarded a \$11,026.14 technology grant by the Ohio Supreme Court for the purpose of improving the Court’s ability to conduct business remotely.

In light of the COVID-19 pandemic and the guidance from the Ohio Supreme Court, Judge Kovack and the Medina County Domestic Relations Court have developed a short- and long-term plan to eliminate the need for nearly all in-person court appearances throughout the duration of the COVID-19 pandemic emergency, and possibly beyond.

By using Go2Meetings software, litigants, attorneys, witnesses and anyone having business before the Court will be able to participate from wherever they are by utilizing laptops or an app on their smart phones. This will allow anyone who needs to attend a hearing to participate remotely, including attorneys, parties, and witnesses, should they choose to do so. On-site court facilities will remain open and available for those who do not have access to laptops, smart phones or other resources necessary to participate remotely or who choose not to utilize those options.

This grant is the culmination of efforts that the Court has made in the past six (6) weeks to reduce the foot traffic and need for personal appearances at the courthouse. With this grant, and the technology which it allows the Court to implement, Judge Kovack and the Court will be positioned to continue to provide services to the community and to give families a place to come to resolve their disputes in this difficult and uncertain time. “I am grateful to the Ohio Supreme Court not only for recognizing the need for the technology, but also for assisting local courts by providing resources necessary to acquire the technology. I am and will continue to be focused on taking steps to help protect the health and safety of Medina County citizens and others having business before the Court.” (Judge Mary Kovack)

Additional details for attorneys, litigants and witnesses will be forthcoming. Details and specific instructions on the use of the remote service will also be posted on the Court’s website for attorneys, litigants, and witnesses, when finalized.