

Bar Talk – May 7, 2020

- Emergency/Executive Order updates
- Guest: Chief Civil Deputy Harry McKenney, Kennebec County
- Business-side updates
 - MSBA
 - Lawyer Well-Being Week (May 4-8): today is social well-being <https://lawyerwellbeing.net/lawyer-well-being-week/>
 - upcoming guests: ACJ Mead on 5/8; DA Natasha Irving (District 6) on 5/11; Bill Nugent on 5/12; Aria Ee on 5/15
- Personal-side updates
 - journal: thankful for the givers
- Questions/requests: MSBA can liaise – please send to aarmstrong@mainebar.org



MSA Survey of Counties Serving Civil Process due to COVID-19 (as of May 4, 2020)

1. Are you currently servicing "all" civil papers?
2. If you are only serving "some" papers, what are your criteria for making the decision on what papers you will serve?
3. If not, when do you plan on going back to full service?
4. Due to COVID-19, did you stop or limit your service at any point?



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- **Androscoggin:** Full Service; “Had reduced service last two weeks of April.”
- **Aroostook:** No; “Once the courts open up. Only serving Child Protective cases, emergency orders and anything that has a court date, Emergency Orders.”
- **Cumberland:** Full Service; “Unless prohibited by Executive Order.”
- **Franklin:** Full Service; “All that we receive. The service just slowed down because of court limitations, not because of our service.”
- **Hancock:** No; “We are not serving any papers at this time due to the courts being closed and for the safety of our personnel. We stopped in mid-March and won’t begin again until the courts reopen.”



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- **Kennebec:** Full Service; No change in service other than utilizing masks and gloves.
- **Knox:** No; “We are not serving papers at this time since March 11th, and awaiting courts to open up to be more accessible.”
- **Lincoln:** No; “We are serving any matters that are pressing, and that have been scheduled by the court, particularly with deadlines. We are timing things to coincide with the courts reopening planned schedule, but are willing to assist any attorney needing service now. We never completely stopped serving, but did limit service to urgent matters, about the same time the courts limited access and scheduling.”
- **Oxford:** No; “Once the courts open up. Only serving Child Protective cases, emergency orders and anything that has a court date, Emergency Orders. Stopped serving around March 18th.”



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- **Penobscot:** No; “Court Exceptions: Protection from Abuse, Harassment, Protective and court approved urgent Hearings. We are also serving the following papers: Summons to Trustee (30 days to serve after the date of the order approving attachment.); Writ of Possession, Note: In light of Governor Mills Executive Order on evictions (dated April 16, 2020) we have suspended service and enforcement of these documents. We will only serve and enforce these documents if an attached **additional Order** from the Court authorizing service of process to continue; Some court dated paperwork (FEDs, Subpoenas, etc.). Full service on May 15, 2020. On March 16, 2020, we started limiting our services to the court exceptions paperwork, etc. listed above.”
- **Piscataquis:** No; “Not until the courts open and courts begin to assign court dates. We stopped on March 13, 2020.”
- **Sagadahoc:** No; “Cases related to child protective services or emergency orders. In some cases if the court has set a date. When we receive notification that the courts are open and scheduling hearing dates. Yes, as stated above. Also, if we could not locate on first attempt, we did not return.”



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- **Somerset:** No; “We will commence full service May 7th. We suspended service on March 17th.”
- **Waldo:** No; “We are serving no papers at this time. We will begin to serve papers when the courts reopen and start handling civil cases. We stopped serving papers in early March.”
- **Washington:** No; “We are only serving papers that we deem necessary. Fortunately, due to the limited court schedules, this hasn't appeared to be a problem for most. Service is being provided only when the situation requires immediate actions. On March 24th, we suspended most civil process service, unless we determined that immediate actions were necessary. We were planning to restart with full service on May 1st. We have now extended that date to "until further notice". I believe our restart date will probably coincide with the court system. As they slowly or fully reopen, I believe we will do the same.”
- **York:** Full Service; “No Writs until the courts open back up.”

Lawyer Well-Being Week: Thursday

THURS



CONNECT: Social Well-Being
HOW TO PARTICIPATE IN WELL-BEING WEEK TODAY?



**LAWYER
WELL-BEING
WEEK**

MAY 4-8, 2020

WATCH THIS: Adam Grant's TED Talk: [Are You a Giver or a Taker?](#)

READ THIS: Rob Cross's Harvard Business Review article: [To Be Happier at Work, Invest More In Your Relationships.](#)

DO THIS: Write a [gratitude letter](#) to someone you've been meaning to thank and read it out loud to them. Post about your experience on social media using the hashtag #LawyerWellbeingWeek. Have fun!

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"Feeling gratitude and not expressing it is like wrapping a present and not giving it." – William Arthur Ward.
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Maine State Bar
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