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**IN THE PROBATE COURT OF FRANKLIN COUNTY, OHIO
ROBERT G. MONTGOMERY, JUDGE**

**IN THE MATTER OF
COVID-19 PUBLIC HEALTH EMERGENCY
AND COURT OPERATIONS**

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CASE No. 603535

**FILED #19
JUN 19 2020
Robert G. Montgomery, Judge
Franklin County Probate Court**

**JOURNAL ENTRY AND COURT ORDER ALLOWING
CERTAIN POST-PLACEMENT VISITS TO OCCUR VIA VIDEOCONFERENCE**

After careful review and consideration of Governor DeWine's Executive Order 2020-01D declaring a state of emergency and review of the guidelines issued by the Ohio Department of Job and Family Services in response to the present COVID-19 pandemic, and in keeping with the guidelines and directives issued by the Supreme Court of Ohio regarding court operations during the pandemic, this court finds it appropriate to temporarily modify its requirements for monthly post-placement visits in adoption cases.

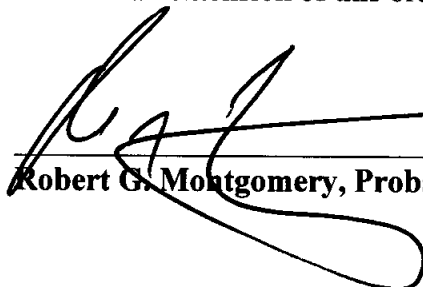
It is hereby **ORDERED** that post-placement visits may occur via videoconferencing technology, such as Zoom or FaceTime, if the adoption assessor deems such remote means to be appropriate. Visits shall not occur via methods that lack a live video connection, such as by ordinary phone call.

If three or more visits in the same case occur via videoconference, it is further **ORDERED** that at least one subsequent visit must take place in person before the adoption can be finalized. Exceptions shall only be permitted under special circumstances and with prior court approval.

This order shall remain in effect through August 31, 2020, and shall apply to visits scheduled to take place on or before that date. During the month of August, the court will review the public health circumstances to determine whether an extension of this order is appropriate.

IT IS SO ORDERED.

Date: 6-19-20



Robert G. Montgomery, Probate Judge

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