

During the existing COVID-19 health emergency, the Hall County Courthouse will be open for essential services that must be completed in person. In an effort to protect the public, access to the building is limited to individuals who have scheduled court hearings or are in need of services that cannot be conducted through the mail, electronically, or telephonically.

The Hall County Courthouse will not close unless by explicit order of the Chief Justice of the Nebraska Supreme Court.

The general public may access the courts of Nebraska at any time through several online services. Self-represented litigants (individuals who are representing themselves without an attorney) can access the Nebraska Supreme Court's "Self-Help Website" at <https://supremecomi.nebraska.gov/self-help>. The website contains many forms and instructions that self-represented parties can use to file new cases and responsive pleadings within existing cases. These include: Divorce Child Support/Visitation/Custody cases; Protection Orders; Name Changes (Adult and Children); and others.

The general public can make payments online 24/7 for court costs, fines, general judgments, spousal support (alimony) and probation fees through Nebraska.gov at:

<https://www.nebraska.gov/apps-courts-epayments/public/onetime>.

Individuals utilizing the online payment website need to know which Court their case was filed in (County or District), the appropriate county the matter was filed in, what type of subject matter their case pertains to (Criminal, Civil, Small Claims, etc.), the two-digit year (i.e. "20" for 2020) and the case number. However, Child support payments must still be paid through the Nebraska Child Support Payment Center, as previously ordered by the Court. Inquiries regarding Child Support Payments may be directed to the **DHHS** Customer Service Center, at 877-631-9973.

Regarding submitting (filing) court documents, current Supreme Court Rule only allows self-represented litigants to submit pleadings (filings) via U.S. Mail or Fax.

County Court of Hall County address: 111 W. 1st Street, Suite 1, Grand Island NE, 68801. The phone number is 308-385-5135.

Hall County Clerk of District Court address: 111 W. 1st Street, Suite 4, Grand Island, NE 68801. The phone number is 308-385-5144 and the fax number is 308-385-5110. General correspondence, in lieu of telephonic inquiries, can be submitted to halldcadmin@hallcountyne.gov.

While most forms are available to the general public online, it has been the ongoing practice of the Hall County Clerk of District Court to still have Protection Order Applications printed off and physically available in the Clerk's office should the applicant not otherwise have access to the documents. During the pendency of the COVID-19 pandemic Protection Order Application packets will be available for the public to pick up in the entrance of the Hall County Courthouse. However, the applications will need to be submitted by U.S. Mail or fax at the points of contact mentioned above. If an applicant feels they are in imminent danger, they are encouraged to contact law enforcement.