

BCBA Criminal Law Section Members,

We know there has been a lot of talk about incarcerated individuals, bail and house arrest and we have been working on it. We have been in contact with Dave Kratz, Deputy Director, Bucks County Department of Corrections, regarding these issues. Dave spoke to President Judge Bateman and provided the following guidance and information:

House arrest petitions are not listed as emergency matters pursuant to the emergency orders issued by the Bucks County Court of Common Pleas.

Attorneys may contact Dave (by email at dlkratz@buckscounty.org) with house arrest requests. Dave's team will compile a list of requests, assemble a comprehensive packet of information on each individual, and forward the requests to the DA's Office and the requesting attorney to review for discussion, objections and possibly victim contact. The requests will then be forward to the court for a decision. Individuals to be considered for house arrest should have lower level offenses and a minimal criminal history.

This process is a temporary deviation from the typical procedures in light of the circumstances.

We hope this helps. Let us know if you have any questions or follow up.

Dan Keane
BCBA President

Greg Nardi
BCBA Executive Director