

VIRGINIA: IN THE CIRCUIT COURT FOR THE CITY OF LYNCHBURG

**ORDER**

WHEREAS, on March 12, 2020, Governor Northam entered Executive Order Number Fifty-One (2020) Declaration of a State of Emergency Due to Novel Coronavirus COVID-19; and

WHEREAS, on March 16, 2020, Governor Northam requested a declaration of a judicial emergency in all district and circuit courts of the Commonwealth of Virginia, pursuant to Va. Code 17.1-330; and

WHEREAS, on March 16, 2020, the Virginia Supreme Court Ordered that from Monday, March 16, to Monday, April 6, 2020, NON-ESSENTIAL, NON-EMERGENCY court proceedings in all circuit and district courts be and hereby are SUSPENDED and all deadlines are hereby tolled and extended, pursuant to Va. Code 17.1-330(D), for a period of twenty-one (21) days, and all circuit courts shall implement certain measures as more fully set forth in said Order; and

WHEREAS, on March 27, 2020, the Virginia Supreme Court Ordered that the judicial emergency be in effect and continue beginning April 6 through April 26, 2020 for all circuit courts of the Commonwealth,

WHEREAS, on April 22, 2020, the Virginia Supreme Court Ordered that the judicial emergency be in effect and continue beginning April 27, 2020 through May 17, 2020 for all circuit courts of the Commonwealth,

It is hereby ORDERED as follows:

1. All civil, traffic and criminal matters, including jury trials, subject to a defendant's right to a speedy trial, shall be continued with the exception of emergency matters, including but not limited to, quarantine or isolation matters, arraignments, bail reviews, protective order cases, emergency child custody or protection cases, and civil commitment hearings. Notwithstanding, the Court may, in its discretion, hear any non-emergency matter, upon agreement of all parties, attorneys and witnesses.
2. In all continued cases where the defendant does not waive speedy trial, the court's determination that a criminal case must be heard in order to avoid violating a defendant's right to a speedy trial shall be made by the presiding judge on a case by case basis.
3. The court shall give precedence on the docket to emergency matters.
4. To the extent authorized by law, all matters that the court hears pursuant to this Order should be conducted by two-way electronic audio-visual communication, if available. The parties, attorneys, witnesses and others will be allowed to appear by such two-way electronic audio-visual communication in order to reduce or eliminate the need for parties, attorneys and others necessarily involved to physically appear in the courthouse. If a party, witness, or other participant is unable to participate via the provided secure communication platform such as Polycom or WebEx, if available, then, upon request to the court, they may participate by telephone. Requests to participate by telephone will be liberally granted.

5. Courtroom attendance in any matters that cannot be continued will be limited to attorneys, parties, necessary witnesses, interpreters, court personnel, court reporters, bailiffs and those deemed necessary by the presiding judge, and members of the press where permitted by law.
6. Attorneys are directed use e-Filing when available.
7. Individuals with legitimate court business who are ill, caring for someone who is ill, or who are otherwise in a high-risk category, as defined by the CDC, to call the clerk of court or other appropriate court personnel to request an appropriate accommodation.
8. The Clerk of Court shall post signage at all public entry points advising individuals not to enter the building if they have, within the previous 14 days:
  - a. visited China, Iran, South Korea, any European countries, or any other high-risk countries identified by the CDC;
  - b. traveled domestically within the United States where COVID-19 has sustained widespread community transmission;
  - c. been asked to quarantine, isolate, or self-monitor by any doctor, hospital, or health agency;
  - d. been diagnosed with, or have had contact with anyone who has been diagnosed with, COVID-19;
  - e. experienced a fever, cough, or shortness of breath; or
  - f. resided with or been in close contact with any person in the above-mentioned categories.

Individuals attempting to enter the court in violation of these protocols shall be denied entrance by a bailiff or court security officer, and will be directed to contact the clerk's office by telephone or other remote means to inform the clerk of their business before the court so as to receive further instruction regarding alternate arrangements for court access.

9. The Sheriff and/or bailiffs shall prohibit individuals or groups from congregating anywhere in the courthouse, and require social distancing throughout the courthouse, including inside the courtroom.

This Order shall be effective from April 27, 2020 to May 17, 2020 unless extended by further Order of this Court.

Entered:

4/29/20

Judge

**VIRGINIA: IN THE CIRCUIT COURT FOR THE CITY OF LYNCHBURG**

**ORDER TO CONTINUE THE MAY 4, 2020 DOCKET CALL TO JUNE 1, 2020 IN  
RESPONSE TO THE NATIONAL AND STATEWIDE EMERGENCY DUE TO THE  
CORONAVIRUS OR COVID-19**

WHEREAS, on March 12, 2020, Governor Northam entered Executive Order Number Fifty-One (2020) Declaration of a State of Emergency Due to Novel Coronavirus COVID-19; and

WHEREAS on March 16, 2020, Governor Northam requested a declaration of a judicial emergency in all district and circuit courts of the Commonwealth of Virginia, pursuant to Va. Code § 17.1-330 and issued by the Virginia Supreme Court; and

WHEREAS on March 27, 2020, the Virginia Supreme Court issued another order of declaration of a judicial emergency in all district and circuit courts of the Commonwealth of Virginia, pursuant to Va. Code § 17.1-330 effective April 6 through April 26, 2020; and

WHEREAS on March 30, 2020, Governor Northam entered Executive Order Number Fifty-Five (2020) requiring Virginia citizens to remain in their place of residence and prohibiting gatherings of more than 10 people effective until June 10, 2020,

WHEREAS on April 22, 2020, the Virginia Supreme Court issued another order of declaration of a judicial emergency in all district and circuit courts of the Commonwealth of Virginia, pursuant to Va. Code § 17.1-330 effective April 26 through May 17, 2020; and

It is hereby ORDERED that the regularly scheduled civil docket call convening May 4, 2020 for the City of Lynchburg is hereby continued to June 1, 2020, the next regularly scheduled civil docket call.

Entered on this the 29<sup>th</sup> day of April 2020.



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Judge

Circuit Court for the City of Lynchburg