

**IN THE CIRCUIT COURT (CIVIL) OF THE 8<sup>th</sup> JUDICIAL DISTRICT  
(CAMPBELL, CLAIBORNE, FENTRESS, SCOTT, AND UNION COUNTIES)  
OF TENNESSEE**

**IN RE: COVID-19 PANDEMIC**

No. \_\_\_\_\_

**ORDER CONTINUING SUSPENSION OF IN-PERSON COURT PROCEEDINGS**

On March 13, 2020, in response to the COVID-19 pandemic, the Tennessee Supreme Court declared a state of emergency and subsequently issued an order on March 25, 2020, suspending all in-person proceedings in all state and local courts through Thursday, April 30, 2020, subject to certain constitutional and emergency exceptions. The Tennessee Supreme Court order of March 25, 2020 is incorporated herein by reference and attached hereto as Exhibit A.

The Tennessee Supreme Court on April 24, 2020, issued an order modifying its March 25, 2020, order by suspending all in-person proceedings until May 31, 2020, subject to the constitutional and emergency guidelines and restrictions set forth in its order of March 25, 2020. Also, the order of April 24, 2020, suspended all jury trials until July 3, 2020. (However, the Tennessee Supreme Court order of April 24, 2020, provides that the Chief Justice may approve in-person court proceedings, only after the submission of a comprehensive written plan, on some non-emergency matters.) The Tennessee Supreme Court order of April 24, 2020, is incorporated herein by reference and attached hereto as Exhibit B.

The Circuit Court (civil) of the 8<sup>th</sup> Judicial District is open and will remain open under all circumstances, subject, of course, to the directives of the Tennessee Supreme Court.

**IT IS THEREFORE ORDERED** that all in-person proceedings in the Circuit Court (civil) of the 8<sup>th</sup> Judicial District shall be suspended until May 31, 2020, subject to the constitutional and emergency exceptions articulated in the Tennessee Supreme Court orders of March 25 and April 24, 2020.

**IT IS FURTHER ORDERED** that all jury trials shall be suspended until July 3, 2020.

It is so ORDERED: April 27, 2020.

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Judge John D. McAfee