

**IN THE CHANCERY COURT FOR THE 8<sup>th</sup> JUDICIAL DISTRICT**  
**(CAMPBELL, CLAIBORNE, FENTRESS, SCOTT AND UNION)**

**ORDER OF COURT PROCEEDINGS UPON APPROVAL OF PLAN BY THE**  
**TENNESSEE SUPREME COURT**

In accordance with the ORDER MODIFYING SUSPENSION OF IN-PERSON COURT PROCEEDINGS AND FURTHER EXTENSION OF DEADLINES issued on April 24, 2020 in Case No: ADM2020-00428 IN RE: COVID-19 PANDEMIC from the Supreme Court of Tennessee at Nashville, the Chancery Court for the 8<sup>th</sup> Judicial District has established the following guidelines and restrictions for operations of this Court until May 31, 2020 or as otherwise directed by the Tennessee Supreme Court:

**I. HEARING METHODS**

**PREFERRED:**

1. This Court will utilize available technology to limit in-person hearings to the extent possible as requested in the April 24, 2020 Tennessee Supreme Court Order No: ADM2020-00428 via telephone conference or video conference. This is the preferred manner for case resolution at this time.

**IN-PERSON IF NO OTHER OPTION:**

1. For matters that cannot be resolved via telephone or video conference, an in-person court hearing may be held with approval of the Chancellor. It is the intent of this Court to conduct in-person hearings only in circumstances that justify a hearing at this time such as matters impacting children, disabled or incompetent individuals, matters involving potential hardship, family matters, or matters with a compelling justification.
2. All in person hearings will be scheduled on a time sensitive docket, if necessary.

Prior to personally appearing, call the Clerk & Master's Office or your attorney to confirm the exact time for your hearing.

## **II. ENTERING THE FACILITY AND SURROUNDING AREAS**

1. This Court will require compliance with the provisions set forth in the General Sessions Courts' plan for each county pertaining to entrance into the courthouse/justice center including but not limited too:
  - (a) Health checks;
  - (b) Questionnaire requirements;
  - (c) Social distancing requirements;
  - (d) Use of masks/face shields;
  - (e) Plan for registering for case, providing telephone or other contact information, and waiting in car or designated area for the case to be called;
  - (f) Number of people in staging or lobby area; and
  - (g) Any other requirements by each particular county.

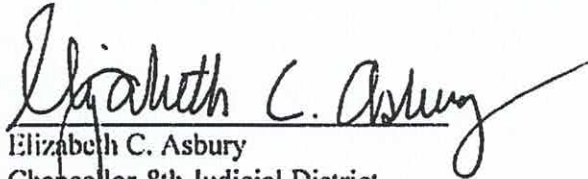
## **III. INSIDE COURTROOM**

1. No more than ten (10) people inside the courtroom at a time;
2. Wearing a mask/face shield is recommended but not required;
3. One (1) case will be heard at a time;
4. Entrance to the courtroom will be permitted by the Court Bailiff or Court Clerk;
5. Social distancing will be strictly enforced;
6. Hand sanitizer will be available for use; and
7. Upon conclusion of your case, follow the directions of the Bailiff or court staff for instructions for prompt exit from the building.

#### IV. OTHER ISSUES

1. Maintenance staff for each facility will follow a strict schedule for disinfecting the facility in accordance with the plan submitted or incorporated in the General Sessions Courts' plan for each respective county.
2. Masks and/or face shields will be made available in the counties for which it is feasible. For Chancery Court, it is recommended but not required for individuals to wear a mask.
3. Any party or attorney shall call the Clerk & Master's office if he/she feels sick and the case will be heard by electronic means or reset.

This plan is being submitted so as to be in compliance with paragraph 3 of the referenced April 24, 2020 ORDER.

  
Elizabeth C. Asbury  
Chancellor-8th Judicial District