

**STANDING ORDER
TWENTY-FOURTH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT
SAMUEL W. JUNKIN
PRESIDING CIRCUIT JUDGE**

In response to the COVID-19 pandemic, and pursuant §12-17-24 of Code of Alabama (1975) and Alabama Supreme Court Order dated March 12, 2020,

It is hereby **ORDERED, ADJUDGED and DECREED** as follows:

All state courts of the 24th Judicial Circuit are open and will remain open under all circumstances, subject to the provisions of this order.

All in-person proceedings in all state courts in the 24th Judicial Circuit, including but not limited to circuit, district, probate, domestic relations, juvenile, child support, traffic, small claims, early warning, and trial courts are hereby suspended from the close of business on Friday, March 13, 2020 through Friday, March 20, 2020, subject to the exceptions below.

Exceptions to this suspension of in-person court proceedings include, but are not limited to:

- Proceedings necessary to protect constitutional rights of criminal defendants, including bond-related matters and plea agreements for incarcerated individuals
- Proceedings related to relief from abuse, including but not limited to orders of protection
- Proceedings related to emergency child custody orders
- Department of Children's Services emergency matters related to child protection
- Proceedings related to petitions for temporary injunctive relief
- Proceedings related to emergency mental health orders
- Proceedings related to emergency protection of elderly or vulnerable persons
- Proceedings directly related to the COVID-19 public health emergency
- Other exceptions as approved by the presiding circuit judge