

**IN THE CIRCUIT AND DISTRICT COURTS OF BARBOUR AND BULLOCK  
COUNTIES**

**ADMINISTRATIVE ORDER  
TEMPORARY PROTOCOL FOR DRUG COURTS, VETERANS COURT AND  
ACCOUNTABILITY COURTS**

Due to the ongoing state of emergency for the State of Alabama relating to the COVID-19 pandemic, the following is the protocol for Drug Court, Veterans Court and Barbour/Bullock county Community Corrections activities:

1. All treatment court dockets including drug and veterans courts are hereby suspended temporarily.
2. Steps shall be taken to have random drug testing spread over the entire week, including weekends, if necessary, to ensure that our testing site is not overly burdened. The testing site shall practice social distancing and personal hygiene, use of hand sanitizer, hand washing and other preventive measures in that office.
3. Those treatment court participants who have alleged to have violated the terms of treatment court and are potentially due a sanction, shall be set for an individual hearing relating to such sanction.
4. Counseling sessions relating to treatment courts and community corrections shall practice social distancing, personal hygiene, hand sanitizer use, hand washing and other preventative measures. Any such counseling session shall have no more than 10 participants in each session with no participant closer than 6 feet from another person.
5. While jail sanctions remain a vital tool in treatment courts and community corrections, whether a jail sanction is ordered is left to the discretion of the Judges on a case by case basis with alternatives, including delayed jail sanctions, when necessary to be considered.
6. When possible, community corrections violations will be set for a hearing on an individual basis at least 30 days from the day when a request for a sanction.

7. Monitoring appointments in community corrections will be scheduled in a manner to limit the number of offenders in the office at any time while ensuring social distancing requirements, as well as personal hygiene, use of hand sanitizer, hand washing, and other preventive measures are adhered to.
8. When a treatment court participants is scheduled to move from one phase to another, the treatment court coordinator shall notify the participant of such and shall give the phasing participants instructions for the new phase. If dockets are still suspended, participants who are eligible to graduate shall do so without a formal graduation ceremony.
9. All other requirements of treatment courts, with the exception of public dockets shall remain in effect while ensuring social distancing requirements, as well as personal hygiene, use of hand sanitizer, hand washing, and other preventative measures are adhered to.
10. Contact information for Drug and Veterans is as follows:  
Mary Moncrief, Director: 334-689-3060.  
Contact information for Community Corrections is as follows:  
Cheryl Leatherwood, Director: (334) 791-7424 [cheryll@sealcs.org](mailto:cheryll@sealcs.org)  
Scott Soltys: 334 200-3689  
You may also contact Presiding Circuit Judge Burt Smithart at 334-616-8383.

**DONE AND ORDERED** this the 26<sup>th</sup> day of March, 2020.

/s/Burt Smithart  
Burt Smithart, Presiding Circuit Judge  
Third Judicial Circuit of Alabama