

**ADMINISTRATIVE ORDER SUSPENDING ALL IN-PERSON  
COURT PROCEEDINGS FOR THE NEXT THIRTY (30) DAYS  
IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF LAUDERDALE COUNTY, ALABAMA**

In our efforts to protect the citizens of Lauderdale County and persons having matters before the court, it is incumbent upon the court to minimize large gatherings to avoid the potential spread of the *Coronavirus Disease 2019* ("COVID 19") pandemic.

Therefore, due to the recent declaration of national emergency for the judicial branch of government, effective immediately ***ALL IN PERSON COURT PROCEEDINGS, INCLUDING JURY TRIALS ARE HEREBY SUSPENDED UNTIL FURTHER ORDER OF THE COURT.*** All suspended/cancelled cases will be reset by the respective court. All parties are urged to stay in contact with your attorney with any questions. If you are unrepresented by legal counsel, make sure that your current contact information is updated and on file with the Circuit Clerk's Office so you will receive your new court date.

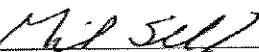
Exceptions to the suspension of in-person court proceedings include:

- Proceedings necessary to protect constitutional rights of criminal defendants, including bond-related matters and plea agreements for incarcerated individuals;
- Proceedings related to protection from abuse;
- Proceedings related to emergency juvenile cases, child custody and protection orders through the Department of Human Resources;
- Proceedings related to petitions for temporary injunctive relief;
- Proceedings related to emergency mental health orders;
- Proceedings related to time-sensitive matters;
- Proceedings directly related to the COVID-19 public health emergency;
- Any emergency proceedings as required by law enforcement;
- Other exceptions as approved by the Chief Justice.

Any person who is ill or experiencing any respiratory issues or fever regardless of suspected Coronavirus **SHALL NOT** attend or appear at any court hearing or trial proceeding. These restrictions also apply to any individual travelling outside the continental United States within the last thirty (30) days, regardless of symptoms.

This Order applies to any person, whether a party, witness, law enforcement or visitor.

**DONE AND ORDERED** on this the 16<sup>th</sup> day of March, 2020.



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**GILBERT P. SELF  
PRESIDING CIRCUIT JUDGE**