

## ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICE OF COURTS 300 Dexter Avenue Montgomery, Alabama 36104 (334) 954-5000

Tom Parker Chief Justice Rich Hobson Administrative Director of Courts

## TRAVEL AUTHORIZATION FOR JUDICIAL BRANCH OF GOVERNMENT OFFICIALS AND EMPLOYEES AND FOR ALABAMA ATTORNEYS WHEN STAY-AT-HOME ORDERS ARE ISSUED

## **APRIL 3, 2020**

## THE BEARER OF THIS AUTHORIZATION IS A JUDICIAL BRANCH OF GOVERNMENT OFFICIAL OR EMPLOYEE, OR ATTORNEY IN THE STATE OF ALABAMA

The Alabama Constitution mandates that the courts remain open (Ala. Const., Art. 1, Sec. 13). Essential functions and services provided by officials and employees of the Unified Judicial System, including legal services by attorneys, are essential to the entire court system in order to provide the effective and efficient administration of justice and access to the courts for all citizens of the State of Alabama. The need for these functions and services increases in a disaster like the current COVID-19 pandemic.

Pursuant to my authority as administrative head of the judicial system (Ala. Const., Art. VI., Sec. 149), I hereby authorize Judicial Branch of Government officials and employees, as well as Alabama attorneys as officers of the court, to travel and engage in activities reasonably necessary to provide essential functions and services for the court system in the State of Alabama without being cited or arrested for violating stay-at-home orders and other restrictions.

Tom Parker Chief Justice

Supreme Court of Alabama