IN THE SUPREME COURT OF ALABAMA

August 20, 2021

IN RE: COVID-19 PANDEMIC EMERGENCY RESPONSE

ADMINISTRATIVE ORDER NO. 13:
**Declaring a Temporary State of Emergency and
Authorizing the Use of Audio/Video Technologies
In Place of In-Person Proceedings**

The Supreme Court of Alabama, pursuant to the authority vested in it under Article VI, §§ 139, 140, and 150, Ala. Const. 1901, hereby declares a temporary state of emergency for the entire Judicial Branch of the State of Alabama due to recent increases in COVID-19 infections in certain areas of the State of Alabama and, effective August 23, 2021, promulgates the following temporary rule regarding the use of audio/video technologies:

Subject to any party's substantive or constitutional rights, to the extent that any Alabama rule or statute governing the administration of, or practice and procedure in, any court impedes a judge's ability to use, or to authorize a court clerk's use of, available audio/video technologies, rather than conducting in-person proceedings, those rules and statutes are temporarily superseded until November 29, 2021. Subject to the above, any judge of any circuit, district, juvenile, family, municipal, probate, or accountability court, or any other court under the supervisory jurisdiction of the Supreme Court, is authorized, upon making written findings that, for good cause shown, time is of the essence and the use of audio/video technologies is necessary for the proper administration of justice, to use his or her discretion to allow any discovery, testimony, appearance, proceeding, hearing, review, or bench trial to be conducted by audio/video technologies.

This Order should be spread upon the minutes of the Court.

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Parker, C.J., and Bolin, Shaw, Wise, Bryan, Sellers, Mendheim, Stewart, and Mitchell, JJ., concur.

Witness my hand this 20th day of August, 2021.

Julia Jordan Weller

Clerk of Court,
Supreme Court of Alabama