

## VIRGINIA: IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF THE CITY OF VIRGINIA BEACH

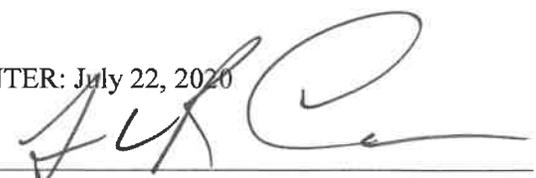
In re: PERIOD OF JUDICIAL EMERGENCY DUE TO COVID-19  
CIRCUIT COURT PROCEEDINGS-FIFTH ORDER

### Order

During the period of judicial emergency due to the COVID-19 emergency, the Court enters this Order to advise court users of the operations of this Court through August 9, 2020.

- 1) The Court shall hold in-person proceedings of all non-jury civil cases scheduled for trial on the docket. The Court may limit a bench trial to no more than 2 hours depending on the number of cases on the docket.
- 2) The Court will hear criminal cases using in-person and video conferencing. The docketing of these matters shall be on a schedule established and approved by the Court.
- 3) The Friday Motion Docket is cancelled and matters on the Friday Motion Docket must be rescheduled by counsel.
- 4) No jury trials shall occur until further notice. Jury trial cases shall be continued. Counsel may schedule a new trial date by submitting an agreed continuance order with a date approved by the court or by submission of a praecipe for the setting of a trial date at docket call.
- 5) Scheduled Judicial Settlement Conferences in a courtroom for a divorce case may be heard in-person. The use of Divorce Commissioners for hearing divorce cases is encouraged during this period of judicial emergency. The hearing for the giving of testimony for the entry of a final divorce decree in an Uncontested Divorce case may be scheduled on the Duty Judge Docket (10:00-11:00 AM time period in 15-minute intervals). This hearing shall be by use of a two-way electronic audio-visual communication system using WebEx unless an in-person hearing is approved by a Judge.
- 6) The Court shall hear statutory mandated matters and such other matters deemed an emergency by the Court. Non-emergency matters may be granted a hearing upon securing approval by the Court. These hearings shall be heard by use of a two-way electronic audio-visual communication system using WebEx unless an in-person hearing is approved by a Judge.
- 7) Matters set on the Duty Judge Docket shall be heard by use of a two-way electronic audio-visual communication system using WebEx, or by telephone, unless an in-person hearing is approved by a Judge.
- 8) Civil Docket Call shall be held subject to social and physical distancing restrictions in the courtroom.
- 9) All in-person proceedings shall be subject to precautions taken by the presiding judge to comply with social distancing requirements. All in-person proceedings shall be subject to the minimum number of necessary participants, and the number of observers permitted in the courtroom at any given time may be limited by the presiding judge while preserving public access to the Court. For in-person proceedings the parties and counsel shall wear a face covering that covers the nose and mouth except for those who cannot safely wear a face mask because of a health-related condition or medical issue. The presiding judge may authorize removal of a face mask to facilitate a proceeding and when the wearing of a face mask may inhibit the ability to communicate.

ENTER: July 22, 2020

  
CHIEF JUDGE GLENN R. CROSHAW