

Serial: 240207

IN THE SUPREME COURT OF MISSISSIPPI

No. 2022-AD-00001-SCT

***IN RE: EMERGENCY ADMINISTRATIVE ORDER
RELATED TO CORONAVIRUS (COVID-19)***

EMERGENCY ADMINISTRATIVE ORDER-26

From the onset of the national and state emergencies created by Coronavirus (COVID-19) in March 2020, the Court has issued a series of Emergency Administrative Orders to address the changing circumstances and the evolving guidance provided by health authorities. In these Orders, the Court has sought to properly balance individual rights, public health and safety, and the constitutional requirement that Mississippi state courts remain open and accessible. *See* Miss. Const. art. 3, §§ 24-25.

The most recent Order (Emergency Administrative Order-25 filed on December 30, 2021) allowed individual trial judges the discretion to postpone jury trials through January 14, 2022, and allowed trial judges the discretion to allow that juror summonses should not be returnable prior to January 18, 2022. In my capacity as chief administrative officer of all courts of the state, I find that Emergency Administrative Order-25 should be extended by the following provisions.

IT IS THEREFORE, ORDERED:

1. Individual judges have the discretion to postpone jury trials scheduled through Friday, January 28, 2022.
2. Individual judges have the discretion to instruct their clerks that jury summonses should not be sent to jurors that would be returnable to any date prior to Monday, January 31, 2022.
3. Individual judges presiding over intervention courts are authorized to modify the scheduling of drug testing and home-supervision visits as they see fit through Friday,

January 31, 2022.

4. All other provisions of Emergency Administrative Order-25 remain in effect.

SO ORDERED.

DIGITAL SIGNATURE
Order#: 240207
Sig Serial: 100004852
Org: SC
Date: 01/11/2022

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Randolph", written over a horizontal line.

Michael K. Randolph, Chief Justice