VIRGINIA: IN THE JUVENILE AND DOMESTIC RELATIONS DISTRICT COURT OF THE CITY OF VIRGINIA BEACH

AMENDED ORDER

Upon a State of Emergency declared by both the President of the United States and the Governor of Virginia, the Supreme Court of Virginia's Orders of Judicial Emergency, and upon consideration of guidelines issued relative to public safety by Federal, State and Local agencies due to the COVID-19 pandemic including the Office of the Executive Secretary's "Guide to Transitioning from Emergency to Routine Operations";

Furthermore, in consultation with the Sheriff of Virginia Beach and under direction of the Chief Judge of the Virginia Beach Circuit Court, the Juvenile and Domestic Relations District Court of Virginia Beach announces the following changes to the court's docket; it is

ORDERED pursuant to the Supreme Court of Virginia's Orders of Judicial Emergency and §16.1-69.35(5), beginning immediately only **four** courtrooms each day shall be operational until further notice.

Due to the above, all non-dcse civil cases set for the morning dockets of June 22, 2020 through June 30, 2020 are hereby **continued**. You will receive a notice for your next court date. Please do not come to court if you have a non-dcse civil case set for an AM docket. Afternoon civil contested cases shall be heard as scheduled.

The court will begin hearing all matters, including trials and contested cases, July 1, 2020. The courts shall hear cases docketed in the manner shown in the attached chart which is incorporated into this order by reference as Exhibit A.

The court will have a duty judge available to rule on emergency motions and preliminary protective orders by affidavit only.

Although the court will be hearing all types of cases, the timing and number of cases placed on the docket shall be segmented and limited to ensure proper social distancing. The clerk shall summons all parties and give notice to the appropriate agencies.

Unfortunately, a small number of previously set afternoon contested cases in July will be continued. The clerk shall notify the attorneys and parties of those cases within 72 hours of the date of this order.

The Court will notice parties on contested cases scheduled March 17, 2020 through June 30, 2020 that have yet to be rescheduled and certain contested cases scheduled after June 22, 2020 that will be rescheduled for a docket call on June 19, 2020. Parties must submit available dates or appear in person for the docket call date.

The Court will notice parties of rescheduled court dates for all cases scheduled between March 17, 2020 and June 30, 2020 that were or are not heard due to the Judicial Emergency Orders. The Clerk shall continue these cases pursuant to the "Virginia Beach Juvenile and Domestic Relations District Court Phase I Transitional Plan for Returning to Normal Operations".

The Court will continue to accept agreed or consent orders which may be filed with an electronic signature.

The Driver's License Ceremony is suspended until further order of the court. Until then, the Clerk's Office will mail licenses as they are received.

Pursuant to the Supreme Court of Virginia's order, all persons aged 10 or over entering the courthouse must wear a face covering that covers the nose and mouth unless they have difficulty breathing, cannot remove a face mask without help or have other medical issues that make the wearing of a face covering unsafe.

The Presiding judge shall have discretion on the number of people in each courtroom and whether masks are required at all times.

Only necessary parties should come inside the courthouse and the courtroom. Necessary parties are defined as the parties to a case and one parent/guardian in the case of a juvenile criminal or traffic matter. Any witnesses, other than police officers, DHS workers and probation officers, are to wait in their cars to be called into the courtroom when their testimony is needed. A party who intends to call a non-police officer or non-agency witness will be responsible for obtaining that witness' phone number to give to the courtroom clerk.

No one can sit inside of a courtroom until a case is called except attorneys waiting for cases, but the attorneys must exit the courtroom if their case is not being heard and there are 10 people in the courtroom including the judge, clerk and bailiff. If an attorney is asked to leave the courtroom before their case is called due to social distancing issues, they shall provide their cell phone number to the clerk.

When clerks check in cases, they may obtain cell phone numbers from the parties and ask them to go back to their car until they are notified that their case will be called.

It is important that all attorneys and litigants are prepared and ready to proceed when their case is called. In order to avoid delays and to minimize the number of people in the waiting area, attorneys should make every effort to meet with clients, witnesses and to have settlement/plea negotiations away from the courthouse and not on the morning of court.

Any party who is not permitted entry into the courthouse, should immediately contact the Clerk's Office for further instruction.

The Clerk's Office is fully opened and is also accessible by telephone (757-385-4391) and email (<u>vabjdr@vacourts.gov</u>) Monday through Friday, 8:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. Emails will be replied to within one (1) business day.

The Court recognizes that these are significant changes to a court order that was issued only 13 days ago, and we are sympathetic to the parties, attorneys and witnesses that are greatly inconvenienced by this change. We are in the midst of an unprecedented event and we

appreciate everyone's continued patience as we strive to get the juvenile court system running in a safe and productive manner.

To the extent this order conflicts with past orders, this order shall be the controlling order.

ENTER: JUNE 16, 2020

CHIEF JUDGE

Exhibit A. Four Judge Dockets effective July 1, 2020

CIVIL DOCKET (MONDAY-THURSDAY)	
CIVIL	9:00 AM - 12:30 PM
CONTESTED	1:30 PM - 4:00 PM

CRIMINAL A DOCKET (MONDAY-WEDNESDAY)	
ADULT	9:00 AM - 12:30 PM
ADULT & JUVENILE	1:30 PM - 4:00 PM

DHS DOCKET (MONDAY-THURSDAY)	
DHS	9:00 AM - 11:30 AM
JUVENILE VIDEOS	12:30 PM
PO HEARINGS	1:30 PM – 4:00 PM

CRIMINAL B DOCKET (MONDAY-WEDNESDAY)	
JUV, DCSE & ADULT	9:00 AM - 12:30 PM
CONTESTED	1:30 PM – 4:00 PM

DUTY DOCKET (MONDAY-FRIDAY)	
8:30 AM	
11AM IN CHAMBERS	
BY PAPER IN CHAMBERS	

CRIMINAL C DOCKET (THURSDAY)	
ADULT & JUVENILE	9:00 AM - 12:30 PM
CONTESTED	1:30 PM - 4:00 PM

CRIMINAL D DOCKET (THURSDAY)	
ADULT 9:00 AM - 12:30 PM	
CONTESTED	1:30 PM – 4:00 PM

CIVIL DOCKET (FRIDAY)	
CIVIL	9:00 AM - 12:30 PM

DCSE DOCKET (FRIDAY)	
DCSE	9:00 AM - 12:30 PM

ADULT DOCKET (FRIDAY)	
ADULT	9:00 AM - 12:30 PM

TRAFFIC/DCSE DOCKET (FRIDAY)	
TRAFFIC & DCSE	9:00 AM - 12:30 PM
JUV VIDEOS	12:30