

Serial: 238988

IN THE SUPREME COURT OF MISSISSIPPI

No. 2021-AD-00001-SCT

FILED

OCT 13 2021

OFFICE OF THE CLERK
SUPREME COURT
COURT OF APPEALS

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

EMERGENCY ADMINISTRATIVE ORDER-23

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-22 filed on September 2, 2021) allowed individual trial judges the discretion to postpone jury trials through October 8, 2021, and allowed trial judges the discretion to allow that juror summonses should not be returnable prior to October 11, 2021. In my capacity as chief administrative officer of all courts in the state, I find that Emergency Administrative Order-22 should be extended by the following provisions.

IT IS, THEREFORE, ORDERED:

1. Individual judges have the discretion to postpone jury trials scheduled through Friday, November 12, 2021.

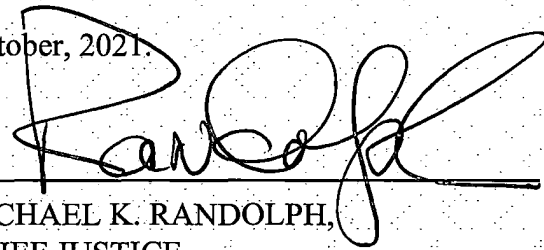
2. Individual judges have the discretion to instruct their clerks that jury summonses should not be sent to jurors that would be returnable to any date prior to Monday, November 15, 2021.

3. Individual judges presiding over drug-intervention courts are authorized to modify the scheduling of drug testing and home-supervision visits as they see fit through Friday, November 12, 2021.

4. All other provisions of Emergency Administrative Order-21 remain in effect.

5. This Order may be modified as circumstances dictate.

SO ORDERED, this the 13 day of October, 2021.

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

MICHAEL K. RANDOLPH,
CHIEF JUSTICE