

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF THE FIFTEENTH
JUDICIAL CIRCUIT
MONTGOMERY COUNTY, ALABAMA

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ADMINISTRATIVE ORDER NO.7

Whereas, the Alabama Supreme Court extended the state of emergency for the Judicial Branch of the State of Alabama pending further order, and

Whereas, the spread of COVID-19 in Montgomery County, AL continues and has not reached its peak with report cases of positive results increasing on a daily bases,and

Whereas, all administrative orders issued by the Alabama Supreme Court in relation to the COVID-19 pandemic, except for Administrative Order No. 3 pertaining to briefing and filing deadlines, were extended and shall remain in effect, except as set forth below, and

Whereas, the Alabama Supreme Court has granted the Presiding Circuit Judge of each circuit and subject to the provisions of its order, the approval over in-person hearings in the circuit courts, district courts, juvenile courts, municipal courts, and probate courts to recommence after **May 15, 2020**, and

Whereas, the Alabama Supreme Court has granted authority to the Presiding Circuit Judge to make decisions regarding the safety and welfare of all court personnel in all courts within the circuit, and

Whereas, the Presiding Circuit Judge is specifically authorized to adopt procedures that, in his or her discretion, will implement the recommendations and requirements of the "Safer at Home Order" to protect court employees and other individuals accessing all courts within the circuit, and

Whereas, as the Presiding Circuit Judge for the 15th Judicial Circuit and all State Courts operating within its jurisdiction, I have consulted with other judges in the circuit, the Chairman of the County Commission(s), the Circuit Clerk(s), the Sheriff(s), the District Attorney, the Mayor of Montgomery, AL and the Public Defender, and

Therefore, Be It Resolved, that all in-person court proceedings in any court, except for those hearings previously indicated by the Chief Justice, **are RESTRICTED and PROHIBITED**, until further order, and

The Court Administrator shall provide a copy of this order to the Chief Justice, Judges of the Circuit, District, Probate and Municipal Courts, Juvenile Referees, Circuit Clerk, District Attorney, Sheriff, County Commission Chairman, the Public Defender and the Mayor.

Jury trials shall remain suspended until **September 14, 2020**.

It is further DIRECTED that this order be spread upon the minute of the above referenced court.

DONE and ORDERED this the 15th day of May 2020.

/s/ Johnny Hardwick

PRESIDING JUDGE