

VIRGINIA: IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF THE CITY OF PORTSMOUTH

**IN RE: POSTPONEMENT OF JURY TRIALS
DURING COVID-19 EMERGENCY**

On March 16, 2020, the Supreme Court of Virginia entered an order declaring a judicial emergency in the Commonwealth due to the COVID-19 emergency. To date, the Supreme Court has entered sixteen orders declaring and extending the judicial emergency, the most recent having been entered on January 19, 2021, and continuing in effect through February 14, 2021.

On December 15, 2020, the Supreme Court of Virginia approved this Court's plan for resumption of jury trials in this Circuit. It is, however, incumbent upon the Court to conduct jury trials in accordance with the approved plan only when it is safe and prudent to do so.

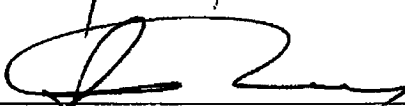
This Court, noting the increase in COVID-19 cases in the Commonwealth, postponed the resumption of jury trials from December 15, 2020 forward.

CONSIDERING the continued surge in COVID-19 cases across the Commonwealth as noted by the Virginia Department of Health, and the predicted further possible increase in cases and positivity rate, it is

ORDERED that:

The resumption of jury trials in this Circuit is postponed until the beginning of the April 2021 Term of Court.

ENTER:

2/4/20


Honorable Joel P. Crowe, Chief Judge