FILED
03/31/2020
Clerk of the
Appellate Courts

IN THE SUPREME COURT OF TENNESSEE
AT NASHVILLE

IN RE: COVID-19 PANDEMIC

No. ADM2020-00428

ORDER CLARIFYING THE EXTENSION OF DEADLINES

On March 13, 2020, the Tennessee Supreme Court entered an order activating a Continuity of Operations Plan which included an extension of deadlines. On March 25, 2020, the Court entered an order which included a further extension of deadlines. The Court now deems it necessary to clarify certain provisions of those orders addressing the extension of deadlines.

The March 25, 2020 order provided that deadlines set forth in court rules, statutes, ordinances, administrative rules, or otherwise that are set to expire during the period from Friday, March 13, 2020, through Tuesday, May 5, 2020, are extended through Wednesday, May 6, 2020.

Notwithstanding the foregoing, we hereby clarify the following:

- The extension through May 6, 2020 does not apply to any deadlines set by Tennessee Rules of Appellate Procedure except as set forth in this order.

- Any party having an appellate deadline that commenced, was running, or expired from March 13 through March 31, 2020, shall have until April 30, 2020, to complete the action required, subject to the exceptions stated below.

- This extension expressly includes, but is not limited to, the deadlines applicable to civil and criminal notices of appeal and applications for permission to appeal. This extension shall not serve to shorten any time period currently provided under the Rules of Appellate Procedure.

- Appellate courts may grant extensions of any deadlines set forth in the Tennessee Rules of Appellate Procedure, including those deadlines not subject to extension under Rule 2 of the Tennessee

Rules of Appellate Procedure, while the state of emergency for the Judicial Branch remains in place.

The April 30, 2020 deadline does not apply to:

- Supreme Court cases previously docketed for oral argument in May 2020. Briefing deadlines in those cases in which briefing has not concluded will be set by separate orders.

- Court of Appeals cases docketed for April 2020 for which an April 7, 2020 deadline has previously been set by orders of the Court of Appeals.

- Court of Criminal Appeals cases docketed for April 2020 for which an April 6, 2020 deadline has previously been set by orders of the Court of Criminal Appeals.

The Court further clarifies that the Court's prior orders apply generally to discovery deadlines. However, the orders do not apply to deadlines set forth in pre-trial scheduling orders entered pursuant to Rule 16 of the Tennessee Rules of Civil Procedure. Trial courts may extend such deadlines in their discretion.

It is so ORDERED.

PER CURIAM