CERTIFICATION OF EMERGENCY RULES
FILED WITH LEGISLATIVE SERVICES AGENCY
OTHNI LATHRAM, DIRECTOR

Pursuant to Code of Alabama 1975,

I certify that the attached emergency (amendment, new rule, new chapter, repeal or adoption by reference) is a correct copy as promulgated and adopted on the 24th day of April, 2020.

AGENCY NAME: ALABAMA BOARD OF COURT REPORTING

RULE NO. AND TITLE: 257-X-3-.07E Emergency Extension of Temporary Licenses Due to COVID-19 Pandemic.

EFFECTIVE DATE OF RULE: April 24, 2020

EXPIRATION DATE (If less than 120 days): N/A

NATURE OF EMERGENCY: Under ALA. ADMIN. CODE r. 257-X-3-.01 (2), temporary licenses are valid from the date of graduation and expire eighteen (18) months after issuance. However, due to the COVID-19 emergency, state testing, normally occurring in April, has been delayed. Without adoption of an emergency rule extending temporary licenses, court reporters engaged in essential legal, judicial and administrative proceedings will be unable to continue to work, constituting an immediate danger to the safety and welfare of citizens of this state. The unanticipated and immediate nature of this threat requires adoption of an emergency rule with less than thirty-five (35) days' notice as prescribed under normal rulemaking procedures.

STATUTORY AUTHROTIY: Code of Ala. 1975, §§34-8B-1-18 and 41-22-5 (b)(1).

SUBJECT OF RULE TO BE ADOPTED ON PREMANENT BASIS ____ YES __X__ NO
NAME, ADDRESS, AND TELEPHONE NUMBER OF PERSON TO CONTACT FOR COPY OF RULE:

Mrs. Shannon R. Ball
Chair, Alabama Board of Court Reporting
100 North Side Square
Huntsville, AL 35801
Telephone: (256)-532-3457
Email: shacourtreporter@yahoo.com

Signature of office authorized
to promulgate and adopt rules and
regulation or his or her deputy

REC'D & FILED
APR 24 2020
LEGISLATIVE SVC AGENCY

FILING DATE
(For APA Use Only)

257-X-3-.07E Emergency Extension of Temporary Licenses Due to COVID-19 Pandemic.

(1) On March 13, 2020, pursuant to the Alabama Emergency Management Act of 1955, Governor Ivey proclaimed a State of Emergency related to the appearance of the 2019 novel coronavirus known as COVID-19. Supplements to the declaration of the State of Emergency were issued on March 18, March 20, March 23, March 26, April 2, April 3, April 12, and April 13, 2020.

(2) Under ALA. ADMIN. CODE r. 257-X-3-.01 (2), temporary licenses are valid from the date of graduation and expire eighteen (18) months after issuance. However, due to the COVID-19 emergency, state testing, normally occurring in April, has been suspended. Without adoption of an emergency rule extending temporary licenses, court reporters engaged in essential legal, judicial and administrative proceedings will be unable to continue to work, constituting an immediate danger to the safety and welfare of citizens of this state. The unanticipated and immediate nature of this threat requires adoption of an emergency rule with less than thirty-five (35) days' notice as prescribed under normal rulemaking procedures.

(3) Based on the forgoing, and notwithstanding the provisions of ALA. ADMIN. CODE r. 257-X-3-.01 (2), any holder of a temporary license as of April 1, 2020 shall have such license automatically extended until the earlier of (a) thirty (30) days after the results of the next statewide court reporters' licensing exam; or (b) one hundred and twenty (120) days after the effective date of this rule. Nothing in this emergency rule shall relieve the holder of a temporary license from the remaining provisions of these rules or limit the Board's enforcement authority.

(4) This rule shall become effective immediately upon its filing with the Legislative Reference Service.

Statutory Authority: Code of Ala. 1975, §§34-8B-1-18 and 41-22-5 (b)(1).

History: New Rule: Filed April 24, 2020; effective April 24, 2020.