VIRGINIA:

In the Supreme Court of Virginia held at the Supreme Court Building in the City of Richmond on Monday the 28th day of September, 2020.

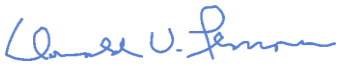
IN RE: ELEVENTH ORDER EXTENDING DECLARATION OF JUDICIAL EMERGENCY IN RESPONSE TO COVID-19 EMERGENCY

Under the constitutional, statutory, and inherent authority of the Supreme Court of Virginia, the Court unanimously EXTENDS the Declaration of Judicial Emergency through November 1, 2020, and ORDERS that the provisions of the *Tenth Order Extending Declaration of Judicial Emergency In Response To Covid-19 Emergency*, entered September 4, 2020 (Tenth Order), as clarified herein to emphasize that all clerks should accept filings submitted by facsimile or e-mail, shall continue to apply in all courts of the Commonwealth for the duration of this Order unless amended by future order.

Pursuant to Va. Code § 17.1-330, all courts continue to be authorized to accept pleadings, orders and other documents that are electronically signed, including those where the electronic signature is accomplished by scanning, to include acceptance of pleadings, motions, and other case-related filings submitted by facsimile or email by litigants and attorneys in order to help reduce the potential for transmission of the COVID-19 virus.

All courts should continue to conduct as much business as possible by means other than in-person court proceedings. In all civil and criminal matters, courts are encouraged to use video conferencing, telephone, teleconferencing, email, or other means that do not involve in-person contact. These methods are preferred over in-person court proceedings.

This Order shall be in effect from October 12, 2020, through November 1, 2020. Accordingly, the Period of Judicial Emergency now extends from March 16, 2020, through November 1, 2020. The Declaration of Judicial Emergency may be extended for additional periods as provided in Va. Code § 17.1-330(E). It is so ORDERED.



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Chief Justice of the Supreme Court of Virginia