IN THE SUPREME COURT OF ALABAMA

ADMININSTRATIVE ORDER APPROVING EXCEPTIONS TO ADMINISTRATIVE ORDER SUSPENDING ALL IN-PERSON COURT PROCEEDINGS FOR THE NEXT THIRTY DAYS

WHEREAS, an Administrative Order Suspending All In-Person Court Proceedings for the Next Thirty Days dated March 13, 2020, was issued by this Court providing that all in-person proceedings in all states and local courts in Alabama, including, but not limited to, proceedings in the circuit court, district court (including cases on the small claims docket), juvenile court, municipal court, probate court, and appellate courts, are suspended beginning Monday, March 16, 2020 through Thursday, April 16, 2020, subject to several exceptions listed in the order which included "[o]ther exceptions as approved by the Chief Justice";

WHEREAS, since the Administrative Order dated March 13, 2020, was issued, several requests have been made and/or questions have been raised concerning whether certain other proceedings or matters apply to the general suspension of in-person proceedings;

NOW, THEREFORE, IT IS APPROVED AND ORDERED by the Chief Justice of the Supreme Court of Alabama on this date, March 16, 2020, that the following proceedings or matters statewide be added to the list of exceptions contained in the Administrative Order dated March 13, 2020:

(1) **Termination-of-parental-rights** proceedings;

(2) Proceedings necessary to protect constitutional rights of children who are alleged to be a delinquent child, specifically **72-hour detention and shelter-care hearings**, as well as proceedings necessary to protect children who are alleged to be a dependent child or a child-in-need-of-supervision, specifically 72-hour shelter-care hearings.

IT IS FURTHER DIRECTED that this Order be spread upon the minutes of the Court.

ORDERED at Chambers this the 16th day of March, 2020.

TOM PARKER
Chief Justice
Alabama Supreme Court

c: Honorable Julia Jordan Weller, Clerk of the Supreme Court
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