

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF BOONE COUNTY, WEST VIRGINIA

ADMINISTRATIVE ORDER

WHEREAS, The Supreme Court of Appeals of West Virginia issued an Administrative Order entered on May 6, 2020 which adopted a COVID-19 Resumption of Operations Protocol for the judicial system throughout the State of West Virginia,

WHEREAS, the Boone County Commission closed the Boone County Courthouse to the public due to the COVID-19 outbreak, effective at 4:00 p.m. today, November 16, 2020.

WHEREAS, this Court does hereby **ORDERS** as follows:

1. The Magistrate Court will be closed until further Order of this Court, although they may hold emergency hearings, with the presiding magistrate determining what is an emergency. Magistrates will remain on call to handle any emergencies or other matters in their discretion;
2. Family Court will conduct their hearings by telephone. The Family Court may also hear any emergency matters, with the Family Court Judge having the discretion to what is an emergency;
3. The Circuit Clerk Office will be open by appointment only;

4. The Circuit Court will conduct all of its hearings until further notice virtually, either by telephone or videoconferencing, unless an emergency dictates otherwise. Certain hearing will occur in person when the undersigned deems it necessary. Parties shall contact their counsel to get instructions on whether or not their hearing is in person or virtually, and to receive instructions on how to participate virtually.
5. This Order shall remain in effect until further order of this Court.

The Clerk is directed to send a certified copy of this Order to the Boone County Prosecutor, the 25th Judicial Circuit Public Defender, and all other counsel who have offices in Boone County, West Virginia. The Clerk is also directed to post a copy of this Order on the door to their office and on all entry doors to the Boone County Courthouse. Copies of this order should also be made available to any person who requests a copy of the same.

ENTERED: _____

Hon. William S. Thompson
Judge, 25th Judicial Circuit