

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF RANDOLPH COUNTY, WEST VIRGINIA

ADMINISTRATIVE ORDER REGARDING COURTHOUSE CLOSURE

WHEREAS the Randolph County Commission has determined that the Randolph County Courthouse, Judicial Annex and Wees Street Annex shall be closed beginning January 11, 2021, through January 18, 2021, due to a recent Covid-19 outbreak among courthouse employees and the increased number of cases of Covid-19 throughout the County, and

WHEREAS this Court deems it necessary to issue an Order addressing the impact of this action on the Circuit Court, Family Court and Magistrate Court of Randolph County, and

WHEREAS certain emergency matters, scheduled appointments, probation related functions, and bond supervision must remain open to insure the orderly operation and purpose of those offices, and allow for the filing of emergency pleadings and other matters, and

WHEREAS it is the purpose of the closure to protect courthouse employees, litigants, attorneys, and the public from unnecessary exposure to Covid-19, and the desire of the Court to cooperate in this effort to protect these individuals by declaring a Judicial Emergency. **NOW THEREFORE**

Pursuant to the power conferred upon this Court by Article VIII, Section 6 of the West Virginia Constitution, and the provisions of *W. Va. Code* §2-2-2, this Court does hereby declare a Judicial Emergency beginning January 11, 2021 through January 18, 2021. This Court does further **ORDER** that the Randolph County Circuit Clerk's Office and Randolph County Magistrate Offices shall remain open, by appointment only, and shall be staffed by a limited number of individuals to reduce the possibility of exposure to the Covid-19 virus, in order to

facilitate the orderly transaction of emergency and time sensitive business. This Court does further **ORDER** that the Randolph County Probation Office shall remain open however shall operate on a limited staff, and probation officers are directed to work from home during this time. This Court does further **ORDER** that North Central Community Corrections shall remain open for the purpose of bond supervision only, and shall also operate on a limited staff during this time. This Court does further **ORDER** that the Randolph County Family Court, Randolph County Magistrate Court and Randolph County Mental Hygiene Commissioners shall continue to perform their *emergency* assignments during this time. This Court does further **ORDER** that all filing deadlines which may expire during the period of this Judicial Emergency shall be extended until January 19, 2021.

The Clerk of this Court is directed to forward a certified copy of this Order to the Administrative Office of the West Virginia Supreme Court of Appeals, Family Court Judge Lori A. Haynes, Magistrates Michael Dyer, Benjamin Shepler, and Tracy Harper, the Randolph County Circuit Clerk, the Randolph County Magistrate Clerk, the Chief Probation Officer, the Executive Director of North Central Community Corrections and the Randolph County Commission.

ENTER this ____ day of January, 2021.

David H. Wilmoth
Circuit Judge for Randolph County