

VIRGINIA: IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF THE CITY OF CHESAPEAKE

**IN RE: SECOND ORDER REGARDING POSTPONEMENT OF JURY TRIALS
DURING COVID-19 EMERGENCY**

On March 16, 2020, the Supreme Court of Virginia entered an order declaring a judicial emergency in the Commonwealth due to the COVID-19 emergency. To date, the Supreme Court has entered fourteen orders extending the judicial emergency, the most recent having been entered on December 3, 2020, and continuing in effect through at least January 3, 2020.

On October 28, 2020, the Supreme Court of Virginia approved this Court's plan for resumption of jury trials in this Circuit. It is, however, incumbent upon the Court to conduct jury trials in accordance with the approved plan only when it is safe and prudent to do so.

On November 30, 2020, this Court, noting the increase in COVID-19 cases in the Commonwealth, entered an order postponing the resumption of jury trials until the January 2021 term.

CONSIDERING the continuing surge in COVID-19 cases across the Commonwealth as noted by the Virginia Department of Health, and the predicted further increase in cases following the December holidays into January 2021, it is

ORDERED that:

The resumption of jury trials in this Circuit is postponed until the beginning of the February 2021 Term of Court.

ENTER: *December 11, 2020*



Randall D. Smith, Chief Judge