IN THE SUPREME COURT OF TENNESSEE AT NASHVILLE

FILED 09/14/2021 Clerk of the Appellate Courts

IN RE: COVID-19 PANDEMIC

No. ADM2020-00428

ORDER REGARDING 2022 CONTINUING LEGAL EDUCATION

In response to the COVID-19 pandemic, the Chief Justice of the Tennessee Supreme Court declared a state of emergency for the Judicial Branch of Tennessee government on March 13, 2020, and activated a Continuity of Operations Plan for the courts of Tennessee. <u>See</u> Tenn. Const. Art. VI, § 1; Tenn. Code Ann. §§ 16-3-501 to 16-3-504 (2009); <u>Moore-Pennoyer v. State</u>, 515 S.W.3d 271, 276-77 (Tenn. 2017); Tenn. Sup. Ct. R. 49. By separate orders filed March 13th, March 27th, and December 3rd, 2020, this Court temporarily suspended Tennessee Supreme Court Rule 21, sections 3.01(c) and 4.02(c) for 2019, 2020, and 2021, to the extent these provisions impose a maximum limit of eight (8) hours of Distance Learning for required continuing legal education hours for lawyers licensed in Tennessee and for lawyers seeking reactivation or reinstatement pursuant to Tennessee Supreme Court Rule 9, section 30 and Rule 21.

In light of the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic and state of emergency, this Court again extends the temporary suspension of Tennessee Supreme Court Rule 21, sections 3.01(c) and 4.02(c) through 2022 and removes the eight-hour limitation on Distance Learning for the required continuing legal education hours for 2022 for licensed Tennessee attorneys and for those lawyers seeking reactivation or reinstatement in 2022 pursuant to Tennessee Supreme Court Rule 9, section 30 and Rule 21. Effective immediately, and continuing through December 31, 2022, lawyers may earn all or any portion of the required continuing legal education hours for 2022, or for purposes of seeking reactivation or reinstatement in 2022, through approved Distance Learning completed through December 31, 2022.

It is so ORDERED.

PER CURIAM