

IN THE SUPREME COURT OF TENNESSEE
AT NASHVILLE

FILED
06/08/2023
Clerk of the
Appellate Courts

IN RE: COVID-19 PANDEMIC

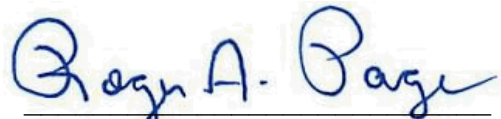
No. ADM2020-00428

ORDER ENDING STATE OF EMERGENCY

On March 13, 2020, 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 and activated a Continuity of Operations Plan for the courts of Tennessee. *See* Tenn. Const. Art. VI, § 1; Tenn. Code Ann. §§ 16-3-501 to 16-3-504 (2009); *Moore-Pennoyer v. State*, 515 S.W.3d 271, 276-77 (Tenn. 2017); Tenn. Sup. Ct. R. 49. This state of emergency constituted a “disaster” for purposes of Tenn. Sup. Ct. R. 49 and Tenn. Code Ann. § 28-1-116. On December 22, 2020, the Court extended the state of emergency for the Judicial Branch of Tennessee government and the Continuity of Operations Plan for the courts of Tennessee, and the state of emergency and Continuity of Operations Plan have remained in effect since that date. Pursuant to its authority under the state of emergency and the Continuity of Operations Plan, the Court issued numerous orders addressing aspects of the operation of the courts and agencies of the Judicial Branch of Tennessee government. While many of those orders expired by their own terms or were rescinded by subsequent orders, others remain in effect. In light of the end of the COVID-19 Public Health Emergency at the federal level and the dramatically diminished effect of COVID-19 on the functioning of the Judicial Branch of Tennessee government, the Court declares an end to the previously declared state of emergency for the Judicial Branch of Tennessee government and an end to the previously activated Continuity of Operations Plan for the courts of Tennessee. The Court rescinds those orders issued pursuant to the state of emergency and Continuity of Operations Plan that have not previously expired by their own terms or been rescinded by subsequent orders.

It is so ORDERED.

FOR THE COURT:



Roger A. Page, Chief Justice

Sharon G. Lee

Sharon G. Lee, Justice

Jeffrey S. Bivins

Jeffrey S. Bivins, Justice

Holly Kirby

Holly Kirby, Justice

Sarah K. Campbell

Sarah K. Campbell, Justice