

**VIRGINIA: IN THE JUVENILE AND DOMESTIC RELATIONS DISTRICT COURT
OF AMHERST COUNTY**

EMERGENCY ORDER

It appearing to the Court that the President of the United States and the Governor of the Commonwealth of Virginia having issued emergency declarations regarding the health and safety of all citizens,

And it further appearing to the Court that the federal Centers for Disease Control and Prevention along with other regional and local health authorities are recommending mitigation strategies for communities to reduce and eliminate large gatherings of people,

And it further appearing to the Court that it has the authority pursuant to Section 16.1-69.35 of the Code of Virginia, as amended, to determine when the Court shall be open to conduct business in light of prevailing conditions which could constitute a threat to the health or safety of the Court and Clerk's Office personnel and the general public,

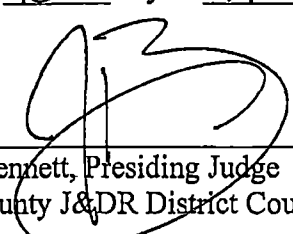
And having conferred with the Commonwealth's Attorney for Amherst County, it is
ORDERED:

- 1) Access to this Court shall be limited for a period commencing March 17, 2020, and continuing through April 03, 2020.
- 2) All cases involving child support, custody and visitation, adult criminal and traffic matters where the defendant is NOT incarcerated, and all juvenile delinquency and traffic matters where the juvenile is NOT held in detention or shelter care, are hereby CONTINUED. Witnesses under subpoena in these matters are hereby EXCUSED.

3) Whenever permitted by the Code of Virginia, additional hearings during this period shall utilize video and telephone to the extent possible (bond motions, arraignments, etc.), and orders shall be issued pursuant to affidavit when permissible (preliminary protective orders).

The clerk is directed to place a copy of this order in the file of any case which may be continued or otherwise affected by this order.

Entered this 16th day of March, 2020.



Jeffrey P. Bennett, Presiding Judge
Amherst County J&DR District Court