ADMINISTRATIVE ORDER 2020-10 Re COVID-19 and Non-Essential Hearings

In light of the Chief Justice Orders regarding COVID-19 issued March 16, 2020 and extended March 20, 2020, and April 16, 2020, the Governor's Shelter in Place Order and the advisories from both local and State Public Health Departments regarding the concerns for the public health in this pandemic and as defined in the Chief Justice Order. Pursuant to the authority granted in Chief Justice Directive 95-01 and the referenced orders of March 16, 2020 and March 20, 2020, it is hereby Ordered as follows:

ORDER

With regard to replevins, forcible entry and detainer ("FED") actions, foreclosures, or other debt collection matters, hearings will not be scheduled or held prior to June 1, 2020; provided, however, that the presiding judicial officer for any such matter may conduct such a hearing if compelling reasons exist, such as for health, safety, or welfare or if imminent financial hardship will occur if the hearing is not held. Pleadings may be filed in replevin, FEDs, and foreclosures prior to June 1, 2020, however, no orders or summonses will be issued to set hearing dates prior to June 1, 2020.

This Order shall be effective upon execution and shall expire on June 1, 2020 absent further Order.

Dated this the 20th day of April, 2020.

BY THE COURT:

J. Steven Patrick Chief Judge

XC: 7th JD Judges 7th JD Clerks of Court Chief Probation Officer w/enclosure