Amendment to the Covid-19 Plan Third Judicial District Effective May 17, 2021

The Third Judicial District's Covid-19 plan is hereby modified to grant the circuit, chancery, criminal, general sessions, juvenile, and municipal courts of the district the expanded discretion provided for in the May 14, 2021, Tennessee Supreme Court Order. The Third Judicial District implements the following provisions:

- 1) The previous requirement of six feet of distance between persons in the courtroom is modified to require three feet of distance between persons in the courtroom.
- 2) Courtroom capacity limitations are lifted; however, the Judges of the Third Judicial District retain the discretion to limit the number of people in a courtroom as health and safety condition or circumstances necessitate while ensuring the courts remain open and accessible.
- 3) The requirement that all persons wear facial coverings in the courthouse and courtroom is lifted. Although the use of facial coverings is no longer a requirement, continued use of facial coverings in compliance with current CDC guidelines is strongly encouraged. Judges retain the discretion to require the use of facial coverings generally or in specific cases, particularly cases involving persons in the courtroom who are at an elevated risk from COVID-19. Any person desiring to wear a facial covering shall be allowed to do so.
- 4) The courts of the Third Judicial District should continue to utilize technology when reasonably feasible to conduct business by means other than in-person court proceedings reducing the need for in-person contact.

Entered on this the // day of May, 2021.

Judge Alex Pearson, Presiding Judge