

IN THE CIRCUIT COURTS OF THE 20TH JUDICIAL DISTRICT FOR DAVIDSON
COUNTY, TENNESSEE

In Re: Weekly Settlement Approvals

FILED

APR - 2 2020

AMENDED ORDER

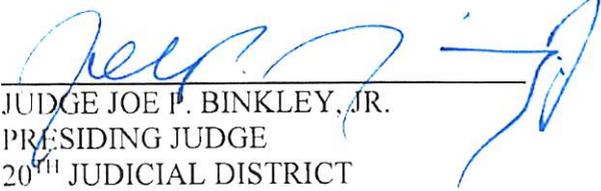
RICHARD B. HOOKER, Clerk
By *Chatter* Deputy

Due to the current health crisis and pursuant to the pertinent orders from the Supreme Court, the Circuit Courts of the 20th Judicial have determined that it is necessary to eliminate as much person to person interaction as possible during this time. Accordingly, the method of obtaining judicial approval of settlements is modified as follows.

1. The rotation between Circuit judges shall remain in effect but there shall be no personal appearance before a judge unless specifically scheduled by that judge.
2. Except in cases involving the settlement of a minor's claim in the amount of ten thousand (\$10,000.00) dollars or more, all settlements shall be determined in the following manner.
 - a. Counsel shall contact the staff for the Court before whom they wish to submit a settlement order and arrange to submit the proposed order and supporting documents via electronic means directly to that court.
 - b. Counsel shall electronically submit the proposed order, together with supporting documentation, including petition, supporting affidavit(s), and a written summary of the relief requested and the reasons therefore.
 - c. The court will review the submission and may contact counsel with questions, if necessary.
 - d. If the court denies the request, the court will contact counsel and explain the reason.
 - e. If the court approves the settlement, the signed order will be sent electronically to counsel.
 - f. It shall be counsel's obligation to e-file the signed order with the Circuit Clerk and pay any necessary fees.

3. In cases involving the settlement of a minor's claim in the amount of ten thousand (\$10,000.00) dollars or more, counsel shall contact the court and arrange to schedule a Chambers hearing, to be conducted by audio/visual means at a time determined by the judge. Counsel shall electronically submit the proposed order, together with supporting documentation, including petition and any supporting affidavit(s) before said hearing is conducted. If the settlement is approved, the court will sign the order and submit it electronically to counsel who shall then be obligated to e-file the signed order with the Circuit Clerk and pay any necessary fees. Should the court determine that a personal appearance is required in these cases, then the hearing shall be conducted in accord with the guidelines set by the Supreme Court and attendance at such proceedings shall be limited to attorneys, parties, witnesses, security officers, and other necessary persons, as determined by the trial judge. Judges and their staff shall ensure that social distancing and other such measures are strictly observed.

IT IS SO ORDERED.



JUDGE JOE P. BINKLEY, JR.
PRESIDING JUDGE
20TH JUDICIAL DISTRICT

cc: All Circuit Court Judges