



EASTERN BAND OF CHEROKEE INDIANS

THE CHEROKEE SUPREME COURT

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THE CHEROKEE SUPREME COURT EASTERN BAND OF CHEROKEE INDIANS QUALLA BOUNDARY, CHEROKEE, NORTH CAROLINA

ORDER

Due to the COVID-19 outbreak and its continued spread as a global pandemic, the Principal Chief, the North Carolina Governor, the Tribal Department of Public Health and Human Safety, and the North Carolina Department of Health and Human Services has directed residents to stay home and urged everyone to take steps to reduce the spread of infection. Further, the North Carolina Supreme Court Chief Justice has extended her order postponing all non-mandatory court proceedings until June 1, 2020. The Cherokee Court will remain open but will adhere to the following:

I hereby order that all court proceedings continued to the May 2020 term of Court **shall be continued to the June 2020 term of Court.** In an Order filed this same day, the Chief Judge has established a trial court schedule beginning June 2020 about which the Clerk of Court will notify all affected parties. The following proceedings are exempted from this Order:

1. Proceedings that may be conducted remotely;
2. Proceedings necessary to preserve the right to due process of law (e.g., a first appearance or bond hearing, the appointment of counsel for an indigent defendant, a probation hearing, a probable cause hearing;
3. Proceedings for the purpose of obtaining emergency relief (e.g., a domestic violence protection order, temporary restraining order, juvenile custody order, judicial consent to juvenile medical treatment order, civil commitment order, etc.).

This Order does not prohibit a Judge, or other judicial officer such as a Magistrate or Clerk of Court, from exercising any in-chambers or *ex parte* jurisdiction conferred by law upon that Judge or judicial officer, as provided by law. Furthermore, I encourage the Judges and Clerk to liberally grant additional accommodations to parties, witnesses, attorneys, and others with business before the Court who are at high risk of illness from COVID-19. I further order that the Clerk of Court post the attached Notice at the entrance of the Justice Center.

EBCI
CHEROKEE SUPREME COURT
CHEROKEE, NC
2020 APR -6 A 10:30
FILED

This Order shall take effect immediately and this Order may be extended in whole or in part for an additional period of time if necessary.

SO ORDERED AND SO ISSUED on the Qualla Boundary this 6th day of April 2020.

A handwritten signature in blue ink, reading "Kirk G. Saunooke", written in a cursive style.

KIRK G. SAUNOOKE, CHIEF JUSTICE
THE CHEROKEE SUPREME COURT