

STATE OF NORTH CAROLINA  
COUNTY OF RICHMOND

FILED  
2020 AUG 20 PM 3:13  
IN THE GENERAL COURT OF JUSTICE  
SUPERIOR COURT DIVISION  
JUDICIAL DISTRICT 16A  
RICHMOND COUNTY, O.S.C. 20795

IN RE: GRAND JURY  
Formed on January 6, 2020

BY amm ) SUPPLEMENT TO  
) ADMINISTRATIVE ORDER  
) FILED JULY 15, 2020

THIS MATTER COMING ON BEFORE THE UNDERSIGNED Senior Resident Superior Court Judge for Judicial District 16A pursuant to G.S. 15A-622 and supplementing the Administrative Order filed July 15, 2020;

WHEREAS, pursuant to G.S. 15A-622, the current grand jury was constituted in the normal course of business as of January 6, 2020; and those grand jurors engaged in their work as needed; and

WHEREAS, on or about March 13, 2020, the Honorable Cheri Beasley, Chief Justice of the North Carolina Supreme Court, announced Judicial Branch measures to minimize the spread of COVID-19 among members of the public. In the interests of complying with that directive by Chief Justice Beasley, grand jurors in this judicial district were not summonsed for the months of April 2020 and May 2020; and

WHEREAS; Chief Justice Beasley has entered an Order dated May 21, 2020, that the courts of this State may begin to return to the conduct of judicial business, subject to limitations related to the health and safety of the public, staff, attorneys, jurors, and judges; and

WHEREAS, on May 27, 2020, the undersigned caused to be filed that Administrative Order that, generally speaking, ordered that the terms of those grand jurors whose terms were scheduled to expire on or about June 30, 2020, would be extended for a period of 30 days;

WHEREAS, on July 15, 2020, the undersigned caused to be filed that Supplement to Administrative Order filed May 27, 2020 that, generally speaking, ordered that the terms of those grand jurors whose terms were set to expire on June 30, 2020 would be extended for another period of 30 days; and

WHEREAS, Chief Justice Beasley's above-referenced May 21, 2020 order requires that Senior Resident Superior Court Judges assess local court facilities to determine whether juries can be convened safely in a manner consistent with applicable guidelines; and

WHEREAS, the conditions necessitating the Administrative Order filed May 27, 2020 have not changed sufficiently to justify summoning the venire people to the Richmond County Judicial Center to reconstitute the grand jury; and

WHEREAS, G.S. 15A-622(b) states, in pertinent part, that grand jurors shall, upon appointment and swearing in, serve "thereafter until their replacements are selected and sworn"; and

WHEREAS, G.S. 15A-622(b) further states, in pertinent part, "If this formula results in any term likely to be shorter than two months or longer than 15 months, the presiding judge impaneling the grand jury may modify the terms"; and

WHEREAS, for the reasons described above, it is reasonably necessary in the administration of justice that the undersigned modify the terms of grand jurors selected and sworn on January 6, 2020, to extend for another 30 days the terms of those grand jurors whose terms were set to expire as of June 30, 2020.

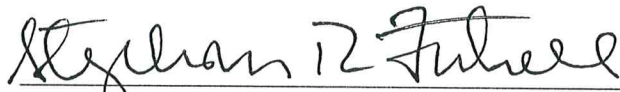
NOW, THEREFORE, pursuant to G.S. 15-622 and the inherent authority of the undersigned Senior Resident Superior Court Judge for Judicial District 16A, it is hereby ORDERED and DIRECTED that:

- 1) The terms of those currently sitting grand jurors whose terms were scheduled to expire on or about June 30, 2020 are extended for another period of 30 days; and during those 30 days, they shall continue to hold over as grand jurors and remain available for service if necessary and properly summonsed; and

- 2) The undersigned shall retain jurisdiction herein in order to determine whether citizens of Richmond County can be safely summoned to the Richmond County Courthouse or Judicial Center for purposes of re-constituting the grand jury during October 2020, consistent with the guidelines of the above-referenced COVID-19 Task Force. If it is determined that doing so is not reasonably possible, then the terms of those grand

jurors whose terms were set to expire as of June 30, 2020, may be extended again.

This the 20<sup>th</sup> day of August, 2020.

Handwritten signature of Stephan R. Futrell in cursive script.

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Honorable Stephan R. Futrell  
Senior Resident Superior Court Judge  
Judicial District 16A