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STATE OF NORTH CAROLINA
COUNTY OF SCOTLAND

FILED

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IN THE GENERAL COURT OF JUSTICE
SUPERIOR COURT DIVISION
JUDICIAL DISTRICT 16A

IN RE: GRAND JURY
Formed on February 17, 2020
SCOTLAND CO., C.S.C.
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SUPPLEMENT TO
ADMINISTRATIVE ORDER
FILED MAY 28, 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 May 28, 2020;

WHEREAS, pursuant to G.S. 15A-622, the current grand jury was constituted in the normal cause of business as of February 17, 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 28, 2020, the undersigned caused to be filed that Administrative Order that, generally speaking, ordered that the terms of those grand jurors whose terms were set to expire on or about June 30, 2020, would be extended for a period of 30 days; and

WHEREAS, a sufficient number of grand jurors appeared at the June 2020 session of the grand jury that business could be conducted; 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 on May 28, 2020 have not changed sufficiently to justify summoning venire people to the Scotland County Courthouse 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 February 17, 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 a period of another 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 Scotland County can be safely summoned to the Scotland County Courthouse for purposes of re-constituting the grand jury during September 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 14th day of July, 2020.

Stephan R. Futrell

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