

**ORDER OF THE CHIEF JUSTICE
OF THE SUPREME COURT OF NORTH CAROLINA**

On 19 March 2020 and 13 April 2020, I issued orders pursuant to N.C.G.S. § 7A-39(b)(1) extending time and periods of limitation for documents and papers due to be filed and acts due to be done in the trial courts. My orders were issued in response to the public health threat posed by the COVID-19 outbreak and were intended to reduce the spread of infection in courthouses throughout the state.

Another extension of time and periods of limitation pursuant to N.C.G.S. § 7A-39(b)(1) is now necessary.

Accordingly, I hereby determine and declare under N.C.G.S. § 7A-39(b)(1) that catastrophic conditions resulting from the COVID-19 outbreak have existed and continue to exist in all counties of this state.

**Extension of Time and Periods of Limitation
Pursuant to N.C.G.S. § 7A-39(b)(1)**

1. Civil Actions, Estates, and Special Proceedings.

- a. **Time for Filing and for Other Acts Due to be Done.** All deadlines for filing documents and papers and all deadlines for other acts that were due to be filed or done between 16 March 2020 and 1 June 2020, inclusive of those dates, remain extended until the close of business on 1 June 2020 in accordance with my 13 April 2020 order.
- b. **Periods of Limitation.** All periods of limitation that were set to expire between 16 March 2020 and 31 July 2020, inclusive of those dates, are hereby extended until the close of business on 31 July 2020.

2. Criminal Actions.

- a. **Time for Filing and for Other Acts Due to be Done.** All deadlines for filing documents and papers and all deadlines for other acts that were due to be filed or done between 16 March 2020 and 31 July 2020, inclusive of those dates, are hereby extended until the close of business on 31 July 2020.

This order does not apply to proceedings for the forfeiture of bail bonds under Part 2 of Article 26 of Chapter 15A of the General Statutes, which continue to be governed by my 13 April 2020 order pursuant to N.C.G.S. § 7A-39(b)(1).

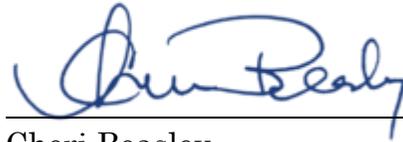
This order does not alter Emergency Directive 7, which continues to be governed in accordance with my 1 May 2020 order pursuant to N.C.G.S. § 7A-39(b)(2).

This order does not apply to documents and papers that are due to be filed or to acts that are due to be done in the appellate courts.

Presiding judicial officials retain the authority provided to them by law to grant further extensions of time as they deem appropriate.

Additional emergency orders or directives under N.C.G.S. § 7A-39(b) may be entered as necessary to support the continuing operation of essential court functions.

Issued this the 21st day of May, 2020.



Cheri Beasley
Chief Justice
Supreme Court of North Carolina