# IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF JACKSON COUNTY, MISSOURI 16<sup>TH</sup> JUDICIAL CIRCUIT, STATE OF MISSOURI

#### In Re: Extension of Administrative Order 2021-058 Regarding Modification of Bonds

## ADMINISTRATIVE ORDER 2021-<u>146</u>

**WHEREAS**, in light of the continued threat to public safety presented by the COVID-19 virus, this Court continues to consider strategies to prevent the spread of respiratory germs into, within, and between facilities, including strategies specifically focused on and related to correctional and detention facilities; and

WHEREAS, defendants arrested on warrants and detained in the Jackson County Department of Corrections are entitled to a hearing on bond within seven days of detention, which hearings are routinely and timely held; and

WHEREAS, the judges of this court after conducting such hearings, weighing and considering all factors relevant to decisions regarding the amount and terms of bond, often enter orders modifying nominal bonds so as to release many defendants on their own recognizance; and

WHEREAS, the transportation of such defendants to the Jackson County Detention Center (JCDC) and the detention of such defendants pending release hearings, increases the risk of the transmission of the COVID-19 virus to defendants, law enforcement and corrections officers, and other defendants detained in the facility; and

**WHEREAS**, as a result of the unique circumstances existing at this time and considering that defendants who are arrested on warrants with nominal bond requirements will likely be released virtually immediately upon their entry to the JCDC, there exist continuing exigent public health considerations that mitigate in favor of not introducing said defendants into JCDC; and

**WHEREAS**, as a further result of changing conditions in the community, it is necessary to periodically examine and, if necessary, modify or rescind prior orders and procedures in order for them to properly reflect current circumstances and to encourage uniformity and clarity among judicial officers, the JCDC, and participating law enforcement agencies; and

**WHEREAS**, the undersigned on May 6, 2021 entered Administrative Order 2021-058 concerning the modification of bonds to address these issues, which Administrative Order has been subsequently extended through October 31, 2021; and

**WHEREAS**, conditions in the community suggest that Administrative Order 2021-058 should again be extended; and

**WHEREAS**, pursuant to Section 478.240.2 RSMo, and Article V, Section 15 of the Missouri Constitution, the Presiding Judge has general administrative authority over all judicial personnel and court officials in the Circuit as well as administrative authority over dockets of the

Court and the administrative and discretionary authority regarding the manner in which any hearings are conducted in the Court,

**IT IS HEREBY ORDERED,** that the provisions of Administrative Order 2021-058 are hereby **EXTENDED** through December 31, 2021 unless modified, extended, or rescinded prior to that date.

# IT IS SO ORDERED.

October 25, 2021 Date

Youngs, Presiding Judge

# **<u>Certificate of Service</u>**

This is to certify that a copy of the foregoing was emailed to the following on October 25, 2021.

16<sup>th</sup> Circuit Court Judiciary and Staff Darryl Forte, Jackson County Sheriff Diana Knapp, Director, Jackson County Detention Center Mary A. Marquez, Court Administrator Verna Proctor, Director, Criminal Records Jean Peters Baker, Prosecuting Attorney Ruth Petsch, District Defender

Angela M. Lopez