

IN THE SUPREME COURT OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN RE: GENERAL STATEWIDE JUDICIAL: Nos. 531 & 532
EMERGENCY :
: Judicial Administration Docket
:
:
:
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SUPPLEMENTAL ORDER

PER CURIAM

AND NOW, this 24th day of March, 2020, this Court's ORDER of March 18, 2020, is SUPPLEMENTED as set forth herein. The non-exclusive list of essential functions provided as guidance to the Courts of Common Pleas shall include:

Commencement of a civil action, by *praecipe* for a writ of summons, for purposes of tolling a statute of limitations. However, all related procedural rules, including rules regarding service of original process, are suspended as set forth in this Court's Order of March 18, 2020.

In the event a court of common pleas is unable to accommodate the filing of a *praecipe* for a writ of summons, attorneys may file a *praecipe* for a writ of summons in the Superior Court district corresponding to the applicable court of common pleas, pursuant to the miscellaneous filing procedure set forth in the Superior Court's Order dated March 23, 2020, Superior Court Administrative Docket No. 3. The filing in the Superior Court must be accompanied by the filing attorney's certification that the attorney has been unable to file the *praecipe* in the appropriate court of common pleas due to the closure of that court to such filings in light of the ongoing public health emergency, and that in the attorney's opinion, filing of the *praecipe* for a writ of summons is necessary to toll a statute of limitations that would otherwise expire during the judicial emergency declared by this Court, or any extension of that judicial emergency.

This ORDER shall be posted on the Unified Judicial System website and shall be effective immediately.

A True Copy Patricia Nicola
As Of 03/24/2020

Attest: 
Chief Clerk
Supreme Court of Pennsylvania