

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF PLATTE COUNTY, MISSOURI

ADMINISTRATIVE ORDER 2020-012

In Re: Signed Return Receipt of Certified or Registered Mail During the COVID-19 Pandemic

ORDER

WHEREAS, the existence and spread of the COVID-19 has resulted in the declaration of a world- wide pandemic; and

WHEREAS, it is imperative to take steps to protect the health and safety of all employees of the 6th Judicial Circuit, all judicial officers and all attorneys and parties who have court hearings or other business in this Judicial Circuit while also balancing the rights of all said individuals and parties to litigation; and

WHEREAS, it is appropriate and necessary to take quick action to reduce the possibility of exposure to COVID-19 and to reduce the spread of COVID-19; and

WHEREAS, the unprecedented circumstances existing at this time warrant this administrative action; and

WHEREAS, countless governmental entities and private businesses have implemented numerous immediate actions and modifications to their normal course of business; and

WHEREAS, there have been emergency declarations made by a number of entities to take measures to reduce the possibility of exposure to COVID-19 and promote the health and safety of our citizens; and

WHEREAS, the COVID-19 virus spreads between people who are in close contact with one another through respiratory droplets produced when an infected person coughs or sneezes; and

WHEREAS, a large gathering of individuals without necessary mitigation for the spread of infection may pose a risk of the spread of infectious disease; and

WHEREAS, the Court desires to employ all reasonable and prudent measures to help protect the general public, litigants, lawyers, and employees from the spread of COVID-19 creating this emergency;

WHEREAS, the Presiding Judge of the 6th Judicial Circuit has the authority over

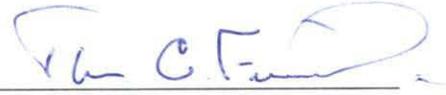
procedures of this Circuit and the authority to enter Orders affecting those procedures.

IT IS HEREBY ORDERED, effective April 6, 2020 unless modified or extended in a subsequent administrative order, as follows:

This court adopts in its entirety the order of the Missouri Supreme Court dated April 6, 2020 which is attached hereto and made a part hereof by reference.

IT IS SO ORDERED.

Date: April 8, 2020



Thomas C. Fincham, Presiding Judge
Platte County Circuit Court



SUPREME COURT OF MISSOURI

en banc

April 6, 2020
Effective April 6, 2020

In re: Signed Return Receipt of Certified or Registered Mail During the COVID-19
Pandemic

ORDER

In response to the COVID-19 pandemic, the United States Postal Service has temporarily modified its customer signature procedures to permit postal service employees, instead of the addressee, to sign for certified or registered mail upon delivery. The Court hereby suspends any local or Supreme Court rule to the extent it requires a return receipt be signed by the addressee only. The signature of the permitted postal service employee is sufficient. This order does not affect any existing statutory requirements regarding signature of return receipts.

This suspension of court rules pertaining to the addressee signing return receipts for certified or registered mail shall remain in effect until further order from this Court.

Day – to – Day

A handwritten signature in cursive script, reading "George W. Draper III".

GEORGE W. DRAPER III
Chief Justice