

**SUPERIOR COURT OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA**

**ADMINISTRATIVE ORDER 21-09**

**(Declaration Extending Rules Emergency Under Super. Ct. Crim. R. 62)**

**WHEREAS**, on May 26, 2021, pursuant to Superior Court Rule of Criminal Procedure 62, the Chief Judge declared a rules emergency as a result of the coronavirus disease 2019 (COVID-19) pandemic; and

**WHEREAS**, Superior Court Rule of Criminal Procedure 62 authorizes the Chief Judge to extend a rules emergency and to issue additional declarations if emergency conditions persist and if the Chief Judge finds that extraordinary circumstances relating to public health and safety substantially impair the court's ability to perform functions in compliance with the specified rules and that no feasible alternative measures would eliminate the impairment within a reasonable time; and

**WHEREAS**, the Chief Judge finds that the COVID-19 pandemic continues to present extraordinary circumstances relating to public health and safety that substantially impair the court's ability to perform functions in compliance with Superior Court Rules of Criminal Procedure 4, 5, 9, 10, 24, 43, and 53, and that no feasible alternative measures will eliminate the impairment within a reasonable time; and

**WHEREAS**, pursuant to Superior Court Rule of Criminal Procedure 62(d)(2)(A), the Chief Judge further finds that emergency conditions substantially impair the court's ability to hold in-person proceedings within a reasonable time; and

**WHEREAS**, pursuant to Superior Court Rule of Criminal Procedure 62(d)(3)(A), the Chief Judge further finds that emergency conditions substantially impair the court's ability to hold felony pleas and sentencings in person; and

**WHEREAS**, the Joint Committee consents to the Chief Judge declaring this rules emergency for 90 days;

**NOW, THEREFORE**, it is hereby,

**ORDERED**, that the rules emergency declared on May 26, 2021, shall be extended; and it is further

**ORDERED**, that Superior Court Rule of Criminal 62(c)(1), (c)(2), (c)(3), (c)(4), (d)(1), (d)(2), (d)(3), and (d)(4) shall be effective during this rules emergency; and it is further

**ORDERED**, that this declaration shall terminate at 11:59 p.m. on November 21, 2021, unless terminated early pursuant to Superior Court Rules of Criminal Procedure 62(b)(2).

**SO ORDERED.**



**August 23, 2021**

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**Anita M. Josey-Herring  
Chief Judge**

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