

Supreme Court of Kentucky

2025-11

EMERGENCY ORDER

**In Re: Emergency Order, Hardin County Circuit and District Courts -
Authorization for Extension of Deadlines**

Over the course of several days, beginning April 5, 2025, extensive and historic flooding occurred in several Kentucky counties, prompting the Governor of the Commonwealth of Kentucky to declare a State of Emergency and the President of the United States to declare a major disaster area for purposes of federal financial aid.

The Hardin County Justice Center, located at 120 E. Dixie Avenue in Elizabethtown, Kentucky, sustained significant damage from floodwaters disrupting essential court functions. Due to these conditions, Chief Circuit Court Judge John Simcoe actually and legally closed the courthouse, beginning on Monday, April 7, 2025, through April 11, 2025, for purposes of computation of time under KRS 446.030, CR 6.01, and RCr 1.10.

Under Section 116 of the Kentucky Constitution, the Supreme Court has the authority to promulgate rules and issue orders of practice and procedure for the administration of justice in all civil and criminal actions, and for all proceedings in the courts of this Commonwealth. These extraordinary circumstances require adoption of this Emergency Order, which is intended to alleviate uncertainty and hardship caused by the Hardin County Justice

Center's closure and does not abridge, enlarge, or modify the substantive rights of any litigant.

Accordingly, under Section 116 of the Kentucky Constitution, and in consideration of the conditions now existing in Hardin County, Kentucky, it is HEREBY ORDERED as follows:

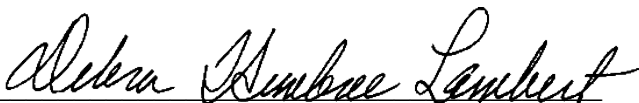
When by procedural statute or rule, or by notice given under a procedural statute or rule, or by order of court, and notwithstanding CR 6.02, an act is required or allowed to be done at or within a specified time, the deadline for which occurred between Monday, April 7, 2025, and Friday, April 11, 2025, or at some time shortly after the court re-opens on Monday, April 14, 2025, the presiding judge, sua sponte, or upon motion of a party, may extend or enlarge the deadline by an amount of time which is reasonable, appropriate, and necessary under the circumstances, unless the deadline is imposed by substantive law or required by the Constitution of the United States or the Kentucky Constitution.

The extensions and enlargements of time referred to in this Emergency Order apply only to those cases venued in Hardin County.

This order is effective immediately upon entry.

Entered this 13th day of April 2025.

All sitting; all concur.


CHIEF JUSTICE