

**Christine Sprow**

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**Subject:** FW: RED ALERT - RED ALERT

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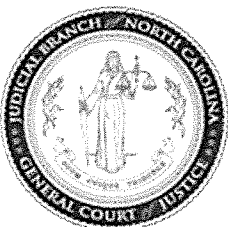
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By now you should all know that Chief Justice Beasley ordered that most cases in District and Superior Court be postponed for at least thirty (30) days. Family Court falls into that category with the exception of claims for emergency relief and those cases will be dealt with on a "case by case" basis. Family Court is strongly suggesting that you delay any filings until the prohibition has been lifted as at this time we are unable to schedule any proceedings and security is limiting admittance to the Courthouse. I would encourage all of you to take advantage of this "down" time to engage in discovery, mediation, and settlement negotiations.

Below is a synopsis of Chief Justice Beasley's directive:

- **Court proceedings must be continued for at least 30 days unless an exception applies.** First, the Chief Justice ordered that superior court and district court proceedings be scheduled or rescheduled for a date no sooner than 30 days from the issuance of the order, unless:
  1. the proceeding will be conducted remotely;
  2. the proceeding is necessary to preserve the right to due process of law (such as a first appearance or bond hearing, a proceeding to appoint counsel for an indigent defendant, a probation hearing, or a probable cause hearing);
  3. the proceeding is to obtain emergency relief (such as a domestic violence protection order, temporary restraining order, juvenile custody order, judicial consent to juvenile medical treatment order, or civil commitment order); or
  4. the senior resident superior court judge, chief business court judge, or chief district court judge determines that the proceeding can be conducted under conditions that protect the health and safety of all participants.

As always, questions, concerns, complaints, etc., should be directed to yours truly.



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