

FILED

MAR 16 2020

COURT OF THE JUDICIARY
Rebecca C. Oates
Secretary

IN THE ALABAMA COURT OF THE JUDICIARY

IN THE MATTER OF:

DOUGLAS L. PATTERSON
DISTRICT JUDGE
LIMESTONE COUNTY

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CASE NO. 55

ORDER ON MOTION TO STAY

At the scheduling hearing on February 24, 2020, counsel for the respondent judge moved to stay the proceedings in the Court of the Judiciary until the pending criminal case against the judge is resolved. It is my understanding that the criminal trial is scheduled for June 2020. Pursuant to the order entered on that date, briefs have been submitted by both parties on the issue. National and state emergencies have unexpectedly now been declared due to a coronavirus pandemic in this country, resulting in an almost complete cessation of most judicial proceedings in this state. As a practical matter, it is impossible to address the scheduling of the trial at this time and the issue will be addressed when it becomes appropriate to do so. Both parties are requested to promptly notify the Court of the Judiciary in writing if any changes are made to the trial schedule for the criminal proceedings against the respondent judge.

This the 16th of March, 2020.

Scott Donaldson

Scott Donaldson

Chief Judge, Alabama Court of the Judiciary