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BECKY LEWALLEN
CO. & PROBATE CLERK
WASHINGTON CO. AR

EXECUTIVE ORDER

EXECUTIVE ORDER GRANTING PAID LEAVE TO COUNTY EMPLOYEES IN THIS TIME OF CRISIS

EXECUTIVE ORDER 2020-01

WHEREAS, President Donald J. Trump has declared a national emergency due to the rising numbers of positive cases of the COVID-19 virus in the United States; and,

WHEREAS, Governor Asa Hutchinson has declared a public health emergency in the State of Arkansas due to the rising numbers of positive cases of the COVID-19 virus in the State of Arkansas; and

WHEREAS, Washington County has declared a public health emergency due the rising numbers of persons testing positive for the COVID-19 virus; and,

WHEREAS, Governor Asa Hutchinson has recently announced a mandatory closure of all public schools in Arkansas, beginning March 17, 2020, to help alleviate the public concern and the spread of the COVID-19 virus;

WHEREAS, the Executive and Judicial Branches of County Government are best suited to determine the essential needs of their office and to allow non-essential personnel to work from home or remain at home during this time of crisis; and,

WHEREAS, County employees should not be forced to use accrued sick, vacation, or comp time while remaining home to assist in controlling the spread of COVID-19 in Washington County or to stay home to care of their children that are not able to attend school at this time.

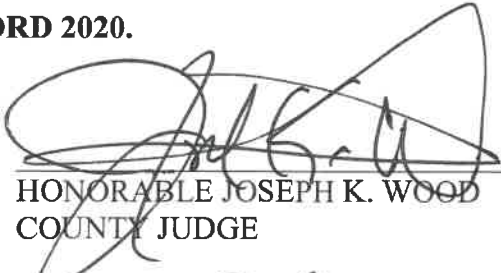
NOW, therefore, by the authority vested in me by Amendment 55 of the Constitution of the State of Arkansas and Arkansas Code Annotated §12-75-108, I hereby suspend the employee attendance policy of Washington County to allow each member of the Executive Branch to determine the leave policy for employees in his or her office to combat this growing pandemic.

Section 1. Each elected Executive and Judicial office holder of Washington County is hereby authorized to approve paid leave for any employee absence during this time without the

use of accrued time off. Furthermore, the use of accrued time off during this time shall be suspended.

Section 2. The provision of this Order shall not exceed thirty (30) days from today's date and will expire earlier upon entry of an Order by this office.

IN TESTIMONY WHEREOF, I HAVE HEREUNTO SET MY HAND AND CAUSED THE GREAT SEAL OF WASHINGTON COUNTY TO BE AFFIXED THIS 16TH DAY OF MARCH, IN YEAR OF OUR LORD 2020.


HONORABLE JOSEPH K. WOOD
COUNTY JUDGE
DATED: 03-16 2020