

PRESCRIPTION AND DEADLINES APPLICABLE TO LOUISIANA LEGISLATION

The coronavirus pandemic is having an immediate impact on pending and prospective litigation in Louisiana. The state and federal court system is essentially operating at a standstill until April 13, 2020. All trials are continued. Most hearings, except for emergency hearings, are continued.

On March 16, 2020, Louisiana Governor John Bell Edwards issued Proclamation Number JBE 2020-30. Section 5 of this emergency order, suspends until at least Monday, April 13, 2020, any legal deadlines, including liberative prescription and preemptive periods, applicable to legal proceedings in all courts, administrative agencies and boards. Any prescriptive period or statute of limitation that defines the timeliness of new suits, where prescription has not yet run, is suspended until April 13, 2020. The order suspending and extending legal delays and deadlines is written very broadly.

The Louisiana Supreme Court has followed Governor Edwards order with the Court's own order and has expressly continued without date all civil trials, hearings and any court appearances (except for limited emergency protective orders and orders related to children in need or in peril) scheduled between March 16, 2020 and March 27, 2020. Court proceedings that can be conducted by telephone, video, teleconferencing or other means that do not involve personal contact are unaffected. The Court has also reserved the right to issue further orders as necessary to affect the circumstances arising from this pandemic. All orders can be reviewed at www.lasc.org.



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