



STATE OF TENNESSEE STATUTE OF LIMITATIONS (during COVID-19 pandemic)

Prepared by
Lee Piovarcy
McKenzie Podesta
Martin, Tate, Morrow & Marston, P.C.
Memphis, TN – Nashville, TN
901-522-9000
www.martintate.com

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EXTENDED STATUTES OF LIMITATIONS DURING THIS TIME OF COVID-19

On March 13, 2020, the Tennessee Supreme Court issued an Order stating that “Deadlines set forth in court rules, statutes, ordinances, administrative rules, or otherwise that are set to expire between March 13 and March 31, 2020 are hereby extended through April 6, 2020.” Tenn. Sup. Ct. Order No. ADM2020-00428 (Mar. 13, 2020). However, deadlines, statutes of limitation, or statutes of repose not set to expire between March 13 and April 6, 2020 were not extended or tolled. *Id.*

On March 25, 2020, the Tennessee Supreme Court issued a second Order stating that “Deadlines set forth in court rules, statutes, ordinances, administrative rules, or otherwise that are set to expire during the period from Friday, March 13, 2020, through Tuesday, May 5, 2020, are hereby extended through Wednesday, May 6, 2020.” Tenn. Sup. Ct. Order No. ADM2020-00428 (Mar. 25, 2020). As with the previous Order, any deadlines not set to expire between March 13 and May 5, 2020 were not extended or tolled. *Id.*

On April 24, 2020, the Tennessee Supreme Court issued a third Order stating that “Deadlines set forth in court rules, statutes, ordinances, administrative rules, or otherwise that are set to expire during the period from Friday, March 13, 2020, through Sunday May 31, 2020, are hereby extended through Friday, June 5, 2020.” Tenn. Sup. Ct. Order No. ADM2020-00428 (Apr. 24, 2020). As with the previous two Orders, deadlines not set to expire between March 13 and May 31, 2020 were not extended or tolled. *Id.*

On May 26, 2020, the Tennessee Supreme Court stated pursuant to an Order that it anticipates no further extensions of the deadlines previously extended through June 5, 2020. Tenn. Sup. Ct. Order No. ADM2020-00428 (May 26, 2020).

TEMPORARY RULES EXTENDING TIME LIMITS TO SERVE COMPLAINTS AND/OR SPECIAL RULES RELATING TO METHODS OF SERVICE

Under the Tennessee Rules of Civil Procedure, service of a summons must be made within 90 days of the summons being issued, and process must be served within one year of filing of the complaint. Pursuant to the above Orders, if these deadlines were to expire

between March 13, 2020, and May 31, 2020, the deadlines would have been extended through June 5, 2020.

As far as special rules for methods of service, there have not been changes made relating to methods of service.

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