



COMMONWEALTH OF VIRGINIA STATUTE OF LIMITATIONS (during COVID-19 pandemic)

Prepared by

Rebecca L. Dannenberg
Franklin & Prokopik, PC
2325 Dulles Corner Blvd, Suite 1150
Herndon, VA 20171
Tel: (571) 612-5936
Email: rdannenberg@fandpnet.com
www.fandpnet.com

EXTENDED STATUTES OF LIMITATIONS DURING THIS TIME OF COVID-19

On March 12, 2020, Governor Northam entered Executive Order Number Fifty-One (2020) Declaration of a State of Emergency Due to Novel Coronavirus COVID-19. On March 16, 2020, the Virginia Supreme Court issued a declaration of a judicial emergency in all district and circuit courts of the Commonwealth of Virginia, pursuant to Va. Code § 17.1-330. The Court's orders effectively suspended all non-essential, non-emergency court proceedings in all circuit and district court and tolled and extended all statutes of limitations and case-related deadlines pursuant to Va. Code § 17.1-330(D).

The Supreme Court issued five additional extensions of the Judicial Emergency Order tolling and extending deadlines. On June 22, 2020, the Virginia Supreme Court issued its Sixth Order extending the Declaration of Judicial Emergency in Response to COVID 19. Therein it extended the Judicial Emergency; however, the tolling period was concluded as of July 19, 2020, and not extended. The tolling of deadlines in Virginia was effectively from March 16, 2020-July 19, 2020 (126 days), with computation of time to resume as of July 20, 2020.

There are no additional or specific temporary rules extending time limits to serve complaints or special rules relating to methods of service. All statutes of limitation and case-related deadlines are subject to the tolling period March 16, 2020-July 19, 2020 (126 days).

This Compendium outline contains a brief overview of certain laws concerning various litigation and legal topics. The compendium provides a simple synopsis of current law and is not intended to explore lengthy analysis of legal issues. This compendium is provided for general information and educational purposes only. It does not solicit, establish, or continue an attorney-client relationship with any attorney or law firm identified as an author, editor, or contributor. The contents should not be construed as legal advice or opinion. While every effort has been made to be accurate, the contents should not be relied upon in any specific factual situation. These materials are not intended to provide legal advice or to cover all laws or regulations that may be applicable to a specific factual situation. If you have matters or questions to be resolved for which legal advice may be indicated, you are encouraged to contact a lawyer authorized to practice law in the state for which you are investigating and/or seeking legal advice.