IN THE GENERAL SESSIONS COURT FOR ROANE COUNTY, TENNESSEE

Memorandum Regarding Defendants Failing to Appear for Criminal Cases

While the Court understands that we are living in a time of heightened uncertainty, the Court also must maintain order by enforcing basic expectations of Defendants in criminal cases.

The Court has been hearing cases for Defendants out on bail since May 19, 2020. While some Defendants have appeared or at least called asking for a continuance, a great number of Defendants have completely disregarded or forgotten about their court dates. The Court understands that Defendants, as the public at large, have a greater number of issues they are presently having to navigate; however, the Court expects all Defendants to keep up with their court dates and either appear or formally request a continuance of that date.

Beginning on July 7, 2020, the Court will begin issuing bench warrants for those failing to appear on the set court date, unless the Defendant formally requests a continuance as follows:

Should a Defendant have a medical concern that may prevent their appearance in court or be required to have frequent contact with someone who does, the Defendant or Defendant's attorney must call the General Sessions Court Clerk at 865-376-5584 to request a continuance. The Court Clerk will work with Defendant or the Defendant's attorney to get accurate contact information and have the Defendant or the Defendant's attorney sign a reset order acknowledging the new court date. This will assure that the Court as well as the Defendant are aware of the new court date.

Issued this the 9th day of June, 2020

Judge Terry Stevens

Dennis Humphrey w/perm.

7256-9-2020

Certificate of Service

	nis day hand-delivered, e-mailed, thereon, a copy of the foregoing (, 20 addressed to:	
Juli Mason, President of th Russell Johnson, District A Kim Nelson, Public Defend Roane County News Public at large	· ·	SEAL SESS ON STATE OF THE COUNTY IN THE COUN

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