LETTER FROM COURT ADMINISTRATION TO ALL COURT EMPLOYEES March 22, 2020

To our Judicial Branch employees:

Today, as part of the ongoing effort to limit the potential exposure and spread of the COVID-19 virus, Chief Justice Seitz signed an updated order that closes all court facilities to members of the public until April 15, 2020 with the exception of limited emergency and essential hearings.

Since the Chief Justice signed the March 14 order declaring a judicial emergency, it has become apparent that greater precautionary measures are needed to protect the health and safety of litigants, practitioners, the public and, of course, our court employees. This order further limits the public's physical access to the courthouses to prevent the spread of the COVID-19 virus.

This order also directs that the Presiding Judge of your court or the State Court Administrator will identify those employees that must report to work. These employees will allow the courts to continue to perform their emergency and essential functions. If you have not been identified to come to work, the order directs that you stay home and telecommute or perform other work functions as directed by the Presiding Judge.

Please read the attached Administrative Order 3 signed by the Chief Justice for further details.

Whether you are working from home or coming into the office, please remember to follow the safeguards of "social distancing," frequent hand-washing, covering your coughs and sneezes, and staying at home and notifying your supervisor if you feel unwell.

Thank you for your dedication to the courts and to the citizens of the State of Delaware in these difficult times.

Chief Justice C.J. Seitz, Jr.
Gayle P. Lafferty, State Court Administrator
Elmer Setting, Deputy State Court Administrator