

STATE OF WEST VIRGINIA

At a Regular Term of the Supreme Court of Appeals continued ad held at Charleston, Kanawha County, on the 3rd day of March, 2022, the following order was made and entered:

RE: EXTENSION OF JUNE 30, 2004 ORDER PROVISIONALLY AMENDING TRIAL COURT RULE 31 TO AUTHORIZE EXISTING BONDSMEN TO CONTINUE CONDUCTING BONDING BUSINESS

WHEREAS, on March 13, 2004, the West Virginia Legislature passed a bill amending West Virginia Code § 51-10-8 to direct the Court to promulgate rules governing the authority of persons engaging in bonding business;

WHEREAS, on June 30, 2004, the Court entered an order declining to enact rules as directed by W. Va. Code § 51-10-8, as this subject matter is a matter firmly committed to the legislative and executive branches of government;

WHEREAS, in this same order, the Court provisionally amended Trial Court Rule 31 to provide extended authority of existing bondsmen to continue conducting bonding business until such time as the legislature amended W. Va. Code § 51-10-8;

WHEREAS, the West Virginia Legislature, effective July 6, 2021, amended W. Va. Code § 51-10-8 to direct the Insurance Commissioner to promulgate rules pertaining to the conduct of the bonding business, including the qualifications and licensing of bondsmen; and

WHEREAS, the rules of the Insurance Commissioner related to the conduct of bonding business will be effective on July 1, 2022.

THEREFORE, it is ORDERED that Order entered by this Court on June 30, 2004 provisionally amending Trial Court Rule 31 shall continue until such time as the rules promulgated by the Insurance Commissioner become effective.

ENTERED: March 3, 2022



John A. Hutchison, Chief Justice



Edythe Nash Gaiser, Clerk of Court