

MAR 17 2020

Thomas M. Gould, Clerk
U. S. District Court
W. D. OF TN, MemphisUNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT
FOR THE WESTERN DISTRICT OF TENNESSEE

In Re: COURT OPERATIONS UNDER THE)
 EXIGENT CIRCUMSTANCES) Administrative Order No. 2020-12
 RESULTING FROM COVID-19)
 OUTBREAK)

On March 13, 2020, the President of the United States, Donald J. Trump, declared the Coronavirus Disease 2019 (“COVID-19”) outbreak a national emergency. In light of this declaration, and in light of guidance the Court has considered from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, as well as federal, state, and local public health authorities, and in order to protect the safety and welfare of the public and Western District of Tennessee Court employees, the Court hereby extends and otherwise modifies its March 12, 2020, Administrative Order No. 2020-11 and ORDERS as follows effective March 17, 2020, through and including April 17, 2020:

- 1) All civil judicial proceedings currently scheduled are hereby CONTINUED until after April 17, 2020, and will be rescheduled. Counsel will be notified of such new settings well in advance of any rescheduled dates.
- 2) All currently scheduled criminal judicial proceedings other than initial appearances, arraignments, bond and detention hearings, and other in-person criminal proceedings presided over by magistrate judges, are hereby CONTINUED until after April 17, 2020, and will be rescheduled. Counsel will be notified of such new settings well in advance of any rescheduled dates. If the Court determines that a criminal matter must be heard prior to April 17, 2020, due to exigent circumstances or to serve the ends of justice, ample prior notice of such proceedings will be provided to all counsel. Initial appearances, arraignments, bond and detention hearings, and other in-person criminal proceedings will be conducted on a schedule determined by the magistrate judge assigned to criminal duty and will be conducted by video conferencing or as directed by the magistrate judge.
- 3) All civil and criminal jury selections and jury trials scheduled to commence now through April 17, 2020, are hereby CONTINUED until further notice. All grand juries already selected will not meet until after April 17, 2020.
- 4) Due to the Court’s reduced ability to secure an adequate number of jurors and the public health declarations made by the President of the United States, the World Health

Organization, and the Governor of the State of Tennessee, the time period of the continuances implemented by this Administrative Order will be excluded under the Speedy Trial Act, as the Court specifically finds that the ends of justice served by ordering the continuances outweigh the best interests of the public and each defendant in a speedy trial, pursuant to 18 U.S.C. § 3161(h)(7)(A).

Prior to April 17, 2020, the Court will reevaluate then-existing circumstances and updated guidance from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention and federal, state, and local public health authorities, to determine whether circumstances warrant an extension of the April 17, 2020, date or whether judicial proceedings, including jury trials and grand jury proceedings, can resume.

The Clerk's divisional offices in Memphis and Jackson shall remain open for all other business. Staff in the Clerk's Office will be available by telephone, mail will be received, counters and operations will remain open for filings. Electronic filings may still be made through the CM/ECF system. The public is encouraged to continue utilizing Court services while following all applicable public health guidelines.

FOR THE COURT this 17th day of March, 2020,

s/ S. Thomas Anderson
S. THOMAS ANDERSON
CHIEF, UNITED STATES DISTRICT JUDGE