

IN THE UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT
FOR THE EASTERN DISTRICT OF TENNESSEE

IN RE:)
) SO-20-13
COURT OPERATIONS UNDER THE)
EXIGENT CIRCUMSTANCES CREATED)
BY COVID-19)

FILED
CLERK'S OFFICE
United States District Court
Eastern District of Tennessee
Date: *May 29, 2020, 4:56 pm*

STANDING ORDER

The Court will follow a multi-phase approach to resuming operations as limited by SO-20-06, SO-20-09, SO-20-10, SO-20-11 and SO-20-12. This order supersedes any conflicting provisions in those orders. The Court's approach is informed by guidance from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), the Administrative Office of the U.S. Courts (AO), and state and local public health offices. Accordingly, it is hereby **ORDERED** that, effective June 1, 2020, until further order of the Court:

Clerk's Office

1. The United States District Court for the Eastern District of Tennessee will remain open for business, subject to the following limitations. Staff in the Clerk's Office will be available by telephone, mail will be received, and intake desks 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.

Grand Jury

2. Grand juries will convene as directed by the Court.

Jury Trials

3. Civil and criminal jury trials scheduled to commence from June 1, 2020, through June 14, 2020, before any district or magistrate judge in any division of the Eastern District

of Tennessee are **CONTINUED**. Limited criminal and civil jury trials may resume after June 14, 2020, in the Court's discretion.

Speedy Trial Act

4. Speedy trial issues will be considered by the presiding judge on an individual case-by-case basis pursuant to 18 U.S.C. § 3161.

Video and Teleconferencing

5. To the extent practicable, civil and criminal matters shall continue to be held via telephone or video conferencing as ordered by the presiding judge. If a matter is held via telephone or video conferencing, all participants shall attend remotely, unless otherwise ordered by the presiding judge.

CVB Docket

6. All misdemeanor, traffic and petty offense dockets (also known as CVB docket) scheduled in all Divisions of this Court through July 3, 2020, shall be **CONTINUED**. New dates for cases scheduled prior to July 3, 2020, shall be reset as directed by the Court. The Court anticipates that each Division of the Court will issue its own orders identifying the names and/or dates of specific dockets.

Naturalization Ceremonies

7. All naturalization ceremonies scheduled to be performed in this district on or before July 3, 2020, are **CANCELLED**. During this temporary period of suspension of ceremonies by the Court, the Attorney General of the United States, acting through the United States Citizenship and Immigration Services, may administer the Oath of Allegiance to all applicants for naturalizations residing in the Eastern District of Tennessee. *See* 8 U.S.C. § 1421.

Non-Essential Judicial Activities

8. All non-essential judicial activities such as courthouse tours, attorney admissions ceremonies, and other public events shall remain cancelled unless otherwise directed by the Court.

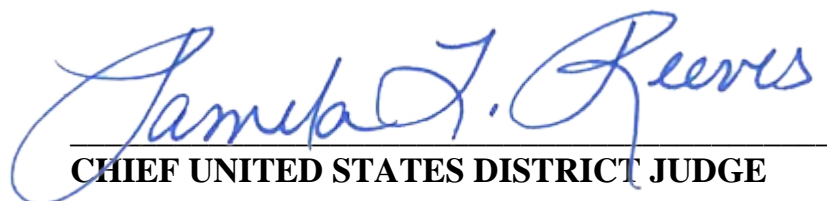
Court Access

9. Prior to personally appearing in Court, parties and counsel are encouraged to report to the Court any concerns they have about health issues or relevant symptoms so that the Court can make informed decisions in the interest of justice and in the interest of the public's health.
10. Until further ordered by the Court, only those persons with official court business shall enter any courtroom in any courthouse in the Eastern District of Tennessee. Persons having official court business include:
 - Court employees;
 - GSA employees and contractors;
 - Attorneys and parties of record in the proceeding as permitted by the presiding judge;
 - Witnesses;
 - Contract court interpreters and reporters; and
 - Others specifically authorized by the presiding judge.

The number of persons in a courtroom should not exceed fifty at any one time. Social distancing should be maintained.

11. All hearings held by video or teleconference will be accessible to the public unless sealed. Call-in information for the public or media will be listed on the Court's public

calendar, available on the Court's public website. Persons granted remote access to proceedings are reminded of the general prohibition against photographing, recording, and rebroadcasting court proceedings. *See* Fed. R. Crim. P. 53 and E.D. Tenn. L.R. 83.1(d).

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "James J. Reeves". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large initial "J".

CHIEF UNITED STATES DISTRICT JUDGE