

**UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT  
EASTERN DISTRICT OF TENNESSEE**

<b>FILED</b> CLERK'S OFFICE United States District Court Eastern District of Tennessee Date: <i>Dec 16, 2020, 5:07 pm</i>
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In Re:	)	
	)	SO-20-22
Third Extension of Authorization for Video	)	
and Audio Teleconferencing During	)	Chief District Judge
COVID-19 Pandemic Pursuant to the	)	Travis R. McDonough
CARES Act	)	

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**STANDING ORDER**

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Pursuant to the CARES Act, H.R. 748, the Court entered Standing Order 20-08 on March 30, 2020, authorizing the use of audio and video conferencing, under certain circumstances and with the consent of the defendant, for various criminal case events during the course of the COVID-19 emergency, to remain in effect for 90 days after entry of the order. Pursuant to Standing Order 20-14, the authorization granted by Standing Order 20-08 was extended for an additional 90 days until September 26, 2020. Pursuant to Standing Order 20-17, the authorization granted by Standing Order 20-08 was again extended for an additional 90 days until December 25, 2020.

The national emergency declared by the President in response to COVID-19 remains in effect and the Judicial Conference of the United States (“JCUS”) continues to find that the emergency conditions created by COVID-19 have affected and will continue to materially affect the functioning of the federal courts generally. Additionally, the State of Tennessee continues to see more COVID-19 cases and is now considered a “red zone” by the White House Coronavirus Task Force. Accordingly, pursuant to 15002(b)(3)(A) of the CARES Act, the Chief Judge of this

District hereby finds that a third extension of the authorization of the use of audio and video conferencing, as detailed by Standing Order 20-08, is necessary.

Therefore, it is hereby **ORDERED** that the authorization for video or audio teleconferencing, as set forth in Standing Order 20-08, and as extended by Standing Order 20-14 and Standing Order 20-17, is extended until the earlier of: (1) the date the Chief Judge determines the authorization is no longer warranted, (2) the date on which emergency authority granted by the JCUS is terminated, (3) the date authorization has been terminated pursuant to section 15002(b)(5) of the CARES Act, or (4) March 25, 2021. If this authorization has not been terminated before March 25, 2021, this Court will review this authorization and determine whether to extend it, in a frequency not to exceed 90 days.

**SO ORDERED.**

  

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**TRAVIS R. MCDONOUGH**  
**UNITED STATES DISTRICT JUDGE**