

FILED

AUG - 3 2020

PATRICK KEANEY
Clerk, U.S. District Court
Deputy Clerk

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

COURT OPERATIONS UNDER THE)
EXIGENT CIRCUMSTANCES) General Order No. 20-18
CREATED BY COVID-19)

GENERAL ORDER

This Order amends General Order 20-14 and addresses only jury trials, grand jury proceedings, and naturalization ceremonies. The Court continues to monitor the evolving nature and spread of the coronavirus known as COVID-19 throughout the United States, the State of Oklahoma, and, in particular, the Eastern District of Oklahoma, and finds it appropriate at this time to continue with grand jury proceedings and naturalization ceremonies under the guidance set forth in General Order 20-14. With respect to jury trials, the Court finds these proceedings are not conducive to being fully reconstituted at this time and they should be continued through August 31, 2020, however, one civil pilot trial may to be conducted in August 2020 as authorized by the presiding Judge.


IT IS HEREBY ORDERED that, effective immediately, grand jury proceedings and naturalization ceremonies will go forward as scheduled subject to precautionary screening, social distancing, and personal protective equipment measures as set forth in General Order 20-14.

IT IS FUTHER ORDERED that, effective immediately, all jury trials scheduled to commence now through August 31, 2020, in the Ed Edmondson Federal Courthouse, are CONTINUED pending further order of the Court, with the exception of one pilot trial that may be conducted in August 2020 as authorized by the presiding Judge.

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that the time period of any continuance entered through August 31, 2020, as a result of this Order shall be excluded under the Speedy Trial Act, 18 U.S.C. § 3161(h)(7)(A), as the Court finds that the ends of justice served by taking such action outweigh the interests of the parties and the public in a speedy trial. The Court may extend the period of exclusion as circumstances may warrant.

The Court will vacate or amend this General Order no later than August 31, 2020.

It is so ordered this 3rd day of August, 2020.



RONALD A. WHITE
CHIEF JUDGE, UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT