

FILED

MAY 21 2021

PATRICK KEANEY
Clark, U.S. District Court

By _____
Deputy Clerk

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

IN RE: JUNE 2021 JURY TRIALS

)

General Order No. 21-12

GENERAL ORDER

This Order amends General Order 21-4 and addresses jury trials, grand jury proceedings, and naturalization ceremonies. The Court will conduct limited criminal and civil trials in June 2021. Counsel will be advised by the presiding judge if their case is set on the June 2021 trial docket. All other criminal and civil jury trials on the June 2021 trial docket are continued, to be reset by the presiding judge who will also address trial-related deadlines. The Court finds that the restrictions previously in place due to the COVID-19 pandemic have resulted in a significant accumulation of criminal and civil trials. These restrictions limited the number of trials that could be safely conducted over the past 15 months; consequently, continuances were granted and numerous cases await trial.

The Court has now eased the COVID-19 restrictions as a result of the recent guidance by the Centers for Disease Control ("CDC") with respect to vaccinated individuals. See General Order 21-11. The sheer number of cases this accumulation presents, along with the increased criminal filings in this district due to the Supreme Court's ruling in *McGirt v. Oklahoma*, 140 S.Ct. 2452 (2020), however, render it impossible to try all cases currently scheduled for trial in June 2021. The Court has undertaken all measures within its means, including exercising its emergency powers under 28 U.S.C. § 141, to set for trial as many cases as possible, but finds it is unable to accommodate all cases for trial in June 2021. The Court must necessarily continue all but a limited number of criminal and civil trials.

Therefore, the period of delay in criminal cases resulting from continuances implemented as a result of this Order will be excluded under the Speedy Trial Act, 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. 18 U.S.C. § 3161(h)(7)(A).

Finally, grand jury proceedings and naturalization ceremonies will go forward as scheduled subject to the provisions of General Order No. 21-11.

It is so ordered this 21st day of May, 2021.

Ronald A. White

RONALD A. WHITE
CHIEF JUDGE, UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT