

UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT  
SOUTHERN DISTRICT OF FLORIDA

ADMINISTRATIVE ORDER 2020-24

FILED BY CW D.C.

*Apr 3, 2020*

ANGELA E. NOBLE  
CLERK U.S. DIST. CT.  
S. D. OF FLA. - MIA

**IN RE: CORONAVIRUS PUBLIC EMERGENCY**

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**THIRD ORDER CONCERNING JURY TRIALS AND OTHER PROCEEDINGS**

This Order is issued in conjunction with Administrative Orders 2020-21 and 2020-18 which limited in-court appearances and continued all jury matters.

**THEREFORE**, the United States District Court for the Southern District of Florida hereby issues the following Order:

1. The United States Courthouses in Miami, Fort Lauderdale, West Palm Beach, Fort Pierce, and Key West, including Bankruptcy Court and Probation, will remain open for business, with reduced staffing, to a level to maintain essential operations, consistent with Administrative Order 2020-20 and subject to the following limitations.
2. All jury trials in the Southern District of Florida scheduled to begin on or after March 30, 2020, are continued until July 6, 2020. The Court may issue other Orders concerning future continuances as necessary and appropriate.
3. All trial-specific deadlines in criminal cases scheduled to begin before July 6, 2020, are continued pending further Order of the Court. Individual judges may continue trial-specific deadlines in civil cases in the exercise of their discretion.
4. Individual judges presiding over criminal proceedings may take such actions consistent with this Order as may be lawful and appropriate to ensure the fairness of the proceedings and preserve the rights of the parties.

5. The Court is cognizant of the right of criminal defendants to a speedy and public trial under the Sixth Amendment, and the particular application of that right in cases involving defendants who are detained pending trial. Any motion by a criminal defendant seeking an exception to this Order in order to exercise that right should be directed to the District Judge assigned to the matter in the first instance; provided, however, that no such exception may be ordered without the approval of the Chief Judge after consultation with the Court.

6. The time period of any continuance entered 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 that action outweigh the interests of the parties and the public in a speedy trial. Absent further Order of the Court or any individual judge, the period of exclusion shall be from March 30, 2020, to July 6, 2020. The Court may extend the period of exclusion as circumstances may warrant. This Order and period of exclusion are incorporated by reference as a specific finding pursuant to 18 U.S.C. § 3161(h)(7)(A) in the record of each pending case where the Speedy Trial Act applies. *See Zedner v. United States*, 547 U.S. 489, 506–07 (2006). The period of exclusion in this Court’s prior Administrative Orders on this subject (2020-20 and 2020-18) are likewise incorporated by reference as a specific finding pursuant to 18 U.S.C. § 3161(h)(7)(A) in the record of each pending case where the Speedy Trial Act applies.

7. Individual judges may continue to hold hearings, conferences, and bench trials in the exercise of their discretion, consistent with this Order.

8. Judges are strongly encouraged to conduct court proceedings by telephone or video conferencing where practicable.

9. Criminal matters before Magistrate Judges, such as initial appearances, arraignments, detention hearings, and the issuance of search warrants, shall continue to take place in the ordinary course.

10. All grand jury sessions in the Southern District of Florida are continued until July 6, 2020, pending further Order of the Court. The Court may issue other Orders concerning future continuances as necessary and appropriate.

11. The Court is cognizant of the right of criminal defendants to a speedy and public trial under the Sixth Amendment, and the particular application of that right in cases involving defendants who are detained pending trial. Although the Speedy Trial Act requires an information or indictment charging an individual with the commission of an offense to be filed within thirty days from the date on which such individual was arrested or served with a summons in connection with such charges, the period of any continuance of grand jury sessions shall be excluded under the Speed Trial Act, pursuant to 18 U.S.C. § 3161(h)(7)(A) and (B)(iii). The Court finds that the ends of justice served by taking this action outweigh the interests of the parties and the public in a speedy trial because the continuance of grand jury sessions in this district renders it unreasonable to expect the return and filing of an indictment within the period set forth in 18 U.S.C. § 3161(b). Absent further Order of the Court or any individual judge, the period of exclusion shall be from March 26, 2020 to July 6, 2020. The Court may extend the period of exclusion as circumstances may warrant. This Order and period of exclusion are incorporated by reference as a specific finding pursuant to 18 U.S.C. § 3161(h)(7)(A) in the record of each pending case where the Speedy Trial Act applies. *See Zedner v. United States*, 547 U.S. 489, 506–07 (2006).

12. All judicial naturalization ceremonies in the Southern District of Florida are suspended through July 1, 2020.

13. The Clerk's Office, Probation, the Bankruptcy Court, and all other Court services shall remain open with reduced staffing, at a level to maintain essential operations, consistent with Administrative Order 2020-20.

This Order shall remain in effect until further Order of the Court.

**DONE AND ORDERED** in Chambers at Miami, Miami-Dade County, Florida, this 3<sup>rd</sup> day of April, 2020.

  
K. MICHAEL MOORE  
UNITED STATES CHIEF DISTRICT JUDGE

c: Honorable Ed Carnes, Chief Judge, Eleventh Circuit  
All Southern District Judges, Bankruptcy and Magistrate Judges  
James Gerstenlauer, Circuit Executive, Eleventh Circuit  
Ariana Fajardo Orshan, United States Attorney  
Gadyaces Serralta, United States Marshal  
Michael Caruso, Federal Public Defender  
Angela E. Noble, Court Administrator • Clerk of Court  
Joe Falzone, Clerk, Bankruptcy Court  
Katherine Koonce, Chief Probation Officer  
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