

IN THE UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT
FOR THE DISTRICT OF KANSAS

In re Criminal Hearings and Trials) Administrative Order No. 2020-3
Under the Exigent Circumstances)
Created by COVID-19 and)
Related Coronavirus Health Conditions)

This administrative order is being issued in response to the recent outbreak of the Coronavirus Disease (COVID-19) in the District of Kansas. President Trump on March 13, 2020 declared a National Emergency in response to COVID-19 (coronavirus), which the World Health Organization has declared a pandemic. The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention recommends social distancing to reduce exposure and slow the spread of COVID-19.

To combat the spread of disease and effectively follow the guidance of the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, and given the severity of the risk posed to the public, litigants, counsel, Court staff, and other agencies, the following protocol is hereby implemented in the District of Kansas:

1. All criminal cases and matters scheduled for nonemergency hearings or trial before any district or magistrate judge in the District of Kansas are postponed pending further order of the Court. Questions concerning prospective scheduling of hearing or trial dates should be directed to the assigned judge.
2. Emergency hearings will not be postponed, absent specific order of the assigned judge. Emergency hearings are defined as hearings on: initial appearances, arraignments, motions for detention, motions for review or appeal from detention orders, and preliminary hearings on petitions for revocation of bond or revocation of supervised release. Questions concerning hearing dates on such emergency motions should be directed to the assigned judge.
3. All grand jury proceedings in the District of Kansas are postponed for 30 days. Questions concerning grand jury scheduling should be directed to the United States Attorney's Office.

The time periods of postponements implemented by this Administrative Order will be excluded under the Speedy Trial Act, as the Court specifically finds that for public safety reasons, the ends of justice served by granting this continuance outweigh the best interest of the public and the defendant in a speedy trial.¹

This order will remain in effect until further order of the Court.

IT IS ORDERED.

Dated this 13th day of March 2020.

¹ See 18 U.S.C. § 3161(h)(7)(A).

BY THE COURT:

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Julie A. Robinson". The signature is written in a cursive style with a horizontal line underneath the name.

JULIE A. ROBINSON, CHIEF JUDGE
UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT