

JUN 26 2020

TONY P. MOORE, CLERK
BY  DEPUTY

**IN THE UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT
WESTERN DISTRICT OF LOUISIANA**

**EIGHTH SUPPLEMENTAL ORDER REGARDING
COURT OPERATIONS UNDER THE EXIGENT CIRCUMSTANCES
CREATED BY THE COVID-19 PANDEMIC**

On March 16, 2020, this court entered an Order recognizing the exigent circumstances created by the COVID-19 pandemic and issued an order concerning court operations for the Louisiana Western District. On March 17, 2020, this court entered a First Supplemental Order restricting public access to our intake counters in our offices located in Alexandria, Lafayette, Lake Charles, Monroe and Shreveport. On May 29, 2020, this court entered a Sixth Supplemental Order further extending the restriction of public access to our intake counters located in Alexandria, Lafayette, Lake Charles, Monroe and Shreveport, which is set to expire on July 5, 2020.

The Court reiterates and adopts the findings on this matter contained in the prior orders. The Court further finds that the pandemic continues and indeed may not have reached its peak in the United States. The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) and other public health authorities continue to recommend social distancing as a means of limiting further community spread of COVID-19. The State of Louisiana has issued various orders directing all Louisiana residents to shelter at home and limit movements outside of their

homes beyond essential needs. The State of Louisiana is in a “Phase II Reopening” as of the date of this order. Governor John Bel Edwards announced that Louisiana will stay in Phase II, as the number of COVID-19 cases and related hospitalizations have started to rise in several regions across the state. The Governor will extend his Phase II order for another 28 days, keeping in place occupancy limits and other restrictions.

In light of these findings and recommendations, the Court orders the following:


IT IS ORDERED all provisions of the “Order Regarding Court Operation Under The Exigent Circumstances Created By The COVID-19 Pandemic” issued on March 16, 2020, the “First Supplemental Order Regarding Court Operations Under The Exigent Circumstances Created By The COVID-19 Pandemic” issued on March 17, 2020 and the “Sixth Supplemental Order Regarding Court Operations Under The Exigent Circumstances Created By The COVID-19 Pandemic” issued on May 29, 2020, are hereby extended through September 13, 2020.

1. Any events involving the Court that are not case-specific, including, but not limited to, continuing legal education courses, public tours, administration of oaths to attorneys, and naturalization ceremonies conducted by the Court which are scheduled to occur between the date of this order and September 13, 2020, are hereby cancelled and will be rescheduled as appropriate.

2. Public access to the Louisiana Western District Clerk of Court Offices in the Alexandria, Lafayette, Lake Charles, Monroe and Shreveport Divisions is suspended through September 13, 2020.
3. Both civil and criminal jury trials may resume on September 14, 2020. All trials, hearings, conferences, and or proceedings are subject to the discretion of the trial judge presiding over the case.

Unless extended, modified or rescinded, this Order will expire on September 13, 2020.

THUS DONE AND SIGNED, in Shreveport, Louisiana, and effective this 26th day of June, 2020.



S. MAURICE HICKS, JR.
CHIEF JUDGE
UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT
WESTERN DISTRICT OF LOUISIANA