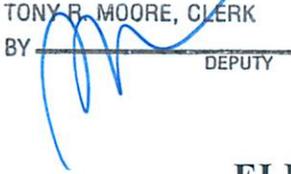


DEC 18 2020

TONY B. MOORE, CLERK

BY  DEPUTY

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

**ELEVENTH 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 August 5, 2020, this court entered an Ninth 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 January 4, 2021.

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 has experienced a surge in the number of cases and deaths 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. As of the date of this Order, The State of Louisiana has reverted to “Phase II Reopening” from “Phase III Reopening.” 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, including areas within the Western District of Louisiana. Attempting to level the number of new cases throughout the State of Louisiana, the Governor has reverted to “Phase II Reopening.” The unpredictable continued spread of COVID-19 within this state and this district strongly suggests a lengthy pause in the conduct of jury trials.

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 “Ninth Supplemental Order Regarding Court Operations Under The Exigent Circumstances Created By The COVID-19 Pandemic” issued on August 5, 2020, are hereby extended through March 31, 2021.

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 March 31, 2021, are hereby cancelled and may be rescheduled as appropriate on or after April 1, 2021.
2. Public access to the Louisiana Western District Clerk of Court Offices in the Alexandria, Lafayette, Lake Charles, Monroe and Shreveport Divisions may resume on April 1, 2021.
3. Both civil and criminal jury trials may resume on April 1, 2021. All bench 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 April 1, 2021.

THUS DONE AND SIGNED, in Shreveport, Louisiana, and effective this 18th day of December, 2020.



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