

UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT
SOUTHERN DISTRICT OF OHIO

FILED
RICHARD W. NAGEL
CLERK OF COURT
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In Re:

ORDER RESCINDING ORDER REGARDING : AMENDED
SERVICE OF PROCESS BY CERTIFIED : GENERAL ORDER NO. 22-20¹
MAIL DURING THE COVID-19 PANDEMIC :

The Court issued General Order 20-39 as one in a series of General Orders, in response to the spread of the Coronavirus Disease (COVID-19) in the Southern District of Ohio and elsewhere. Given the nature of transmission of COVID-19, the United States Postal Service (“USPS”) had implemented temporary modifications to its mail handling procedures for mail that requires customer signatures, including certified mail. As COVID-19 cases resulting in serious illness and death have decreased throughout the country, these modifications under which USPS mail carriers did not obtain a signature of the certified mail recipient, but instead made certain notations reflecting confirmation of delivery, are no longer in effect.

Accordingly, it is hereby **ORDERED** that service of process may no longer be evidenced by delivery of certified mail or express mail by the USPS by notations of “COVID,” “COVID-19” on the receipt or confirmation of delivery. Service in this manner shall no longer be deemed perfected. As stated in Local Rule 4.2, however, “the Court prefers parties to use the methods of service provided in Fed. R. Civ. P. 4 before using certified mail service under Ohio law.” S.D. Ohio Civ. R. 4.2.

It is hereby **ORDERED** that General Order 20-39 is **RESCINDED**.

¹ General Order 22-20, filed on August 22, 2022, inadvertently referenced General Order 22-39; however, the reference should have been to General Order 20-39.

IT IS SO ORDERED.

DATED: August 24, 2022



**ALGENON L. MARBLEY
CHIEF UNITED STATES DISTRICT JUDGE**