

# MEDIA ADVISORY



## UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT SOUTHERN DISTRICT OF WEST VIRGINIA

To: Associated Press  
Bluefield Daily Telegraph  
The Register-Herald (Beckley)  
Charleston Gazette Mail  
Coal Valley News  
The Herald Dispatch (Huntington)  
The Logan Banner  
Parkersburg News and Sentinel  
Point Pleasant Register  
The State Journal  
WV Focus  
WV Metro News  
The West Virginia Record  
WCHS-TV  
WOWK  
WSAZ  
WVAH

From: Rory L. Perry II, Clerk of Court

Date: March 13, 2020

Notification: **COURT OPERATIONS UNDER THE EXIGENT CIRCUMSTANCES  
CREATED BY THE COVID-19 PANDEMIC**

Locations: United States Federal Courthouses for the Southern District of West Virginia  
including Charleston, Huntington, Beckley and Bluefield

Following interim guidance recommendations from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, Chief Judge Thomas E. Johnston has entered an Order effective Friday, March 13, 2020 directing that:

- (1) All civil and criminal jury trials in the Southern District of West Virginia are CONTINUED pending further order of the Court;
- (2) All grand jury proceedings in this District are CONTINUED pending further order of the Court; and
- (3) With regard to criminal matters, the time period of continuances implemented by this General Order will be excluded under the Speedy Trial Act.

During this time, the courthouses in this District will remain open. Staff in the Clerk's Office will be available to receive mail and electronic filings may still be made through the CM/ECF system. The Court will vacate or modify this General Order no later than March 27, 2020.

**For more information, contact the Clerk's Office at (304) 347-3000.**

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