

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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