

MAR 13 2020

Thomas M. Gould, Clerk
U. S. District Court
W. D. OF TN, MemphisUNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT
FOR THE WESTERN DISTRICT OF TENNESSEE

In Re:
**JURY TRIALS UNDER THE EXIGENT
CIRCUMSTANCES RESULTING FROM COVID-19**

Administrative Order 2020-11

On March 12, 2020, the Governor of Tennessee declared a state of emergency over concerns related to COVID-19. In addition, the World Health Organization (WHO) characterized COVID-19 as a pandemic. In light of the close proximity required for jurors to assemble, hear evidence and engage in deliberations, the United States District Judges of the Western District of Tennessee HEREBY ORDER, that:

1. All civil and criminal (grand and petit) jury selections and jury trials scheduled to **commence now through March 27, 2020** before any district or magistrate judge in either division of the Western District of Tennessee are CONTINUED until further notice;
2. Due to the projection that the Court will face a reduced ability to secure an adequate number of jurors and the concerns related to the public health declarations made by the Governor of Tennessee and the World Health Organization, the time period of the continuances implemented by this Administrative Order will be excluded under the Speedy Trial Act, as the Court finds that the ends of justice served by ordering the continuance outweigh the best interests of the public and each defendant in a speedy trial, pursuant to 18 U.S.C. §3161(h)(7)(A).

Courthouses in the Western District of Tennessee will remain open for all other business. Staff in the Clerk's Office are available by telephone, mail will be received, and public counters will be manned for service. The Next/Gen Electronic Filing System will operate to receive filings and distribution of notices and orders. The public is encouraged to continue utilizing Court services while observing all public health guidelines.

FOR THE COURT this 13th day of March, 2020,

s/ **S. Thomas Anderson**
S. THOMAS ANDERSON
CHIEF, UNITED STATES DISTRICT JUDGE