

**IN THE UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT
FOR THE NORTHERN DISTRICT OF IOWA**

IN THE MATTER OF

**CHANGES TO COURT OPERATIONS
DUE TO CORONAVIRUS DISEASE
(COVID-19)**

**PUBLIC ADMINISTRATIVE
ORDER**

No. 20-AO-0002-P

The ongoing spread of the coronavirus, and the resulting outbreak of the respiratory disease COVID-19 in Iowa and bordering states, has created an emergency situation. After consulting with representatives of numerous agencies, including but not limited to the Federal Public Defender's Office, the United States Attorney's Office, the United States Probation Office and the United States Marshals Service, the Court finds that certain changes to court operations must be enacted to assist efforts to slow the transmission of the virus. Accordingly,

IT IS ORDERED:

1. All civil and criminal jury trials scheduled to commence on or before April 24, 2020, before any judge in the Northern District of Iowa, are **continued** pending further order of the Court. Because of the Court's inability to safely call and retain an adequate cross-section of jurors, and the impact of public health recommendations on the availability of clients, counsel, and court staff to be present in the courtroom, the Court specifically finds that the ends of justice served by continuing all criminal jury trials outweigh the best interests of the public and any defendant's right to a speedy trial, and the periods of delay occasioned by the continuances implemented by this Administrative Order are therefore excluded under the Speedy Trial Act pursuant to 18 U.S.C. § 3161(h)(7)(A). The failure of a defendant to object to this Administrative Order will be deemed a waiver of any right to later claim the time should not have been excluded under the Speedy Trial Act.

2. Non-jury proceedings, such as bench trials and hearings, shall proceed as scheduled unless continued, on a case-by-case basis, by the presiding judge. However, parties are encouraged to consider participation by telephone or video conferencing when that option is permitted by law and technologically feasible.

3. All grand jury proceedings in the Northern District of Iowa between March 16, 2020, and April 24, 2020, are continued pending further order of the Court. Grand jury proceedings on or after April 28, 2020, remain set as previously scheduled, pending further order of the Court. The 30-day time period for filing an indictment or an information is hereby tolled as to each defendant during the time period between March 16, 2020, and April 28, 2020, pursuant to 18 U.S.C. §§ 3161(b) and 3161(h)(7)(A). For the same reasons discussed above, the Court finds that the ends of justice served by taking such action outweigh the best interests of the public and any defendant's right to a speedy trial. Therefore, the time period between March 16, 2020, and April 28, 2020, is excluded under the Speedy Trial Act pursuant to 18 U.S.C. § 3161(h)(7)(A), and will not be considered in determining if an Indictment or Information is filed within the time limits set forth in 18 U.S.C. § 3161(b).

4. All deadlines established in civil cases shall remain in place, pending any case-specific adjustments to be made on motion from the parties or on the Court's own motion. Parties are encouraged to consider conducting discovery through means that avoid unnecessary travel or personal contact, such as by telephone or video conferencing. Any dispute over whether discovery can be effectively accomplished consistent with applicable public health guidelines may be submitted to the Court by motion, subject to the consultation requirements of N.D. Iowa L.R. 7(k).

5. Except as set forth herein, Court business will proceed as usual to the extent possible consistent with public health guidelines.

6. The Court will vacate, extend, or amend this Order no later than April 24, 2020.

DATED this 16th day of March, 2020.



LEONARD T. STRAND, CHIEF JUDGE
UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT
NORTHERN DISTRICT OF IOWA

Certified original placed in Public Administrative Order Book.

Copies disbursed this 16th day of March, 2020 via email to:

Chambers of Chief Judge Leonard T. Strand
Senior Judge Linda R. Reade
Chambers of Senior Judge Linda R. Reade
Chambers of Judge C.J. Williams
Chambers of Chief Magistrate Judge Kelly K.E. Mahoney
Chambers of Magistrate Judge Mark A. Roberts
Robert Phelps, Clerk of District Court
Paul DeYoung, Chief Deputy
Kristen Sanchez, Case Administration Supervisor
John Zielke, Chief Probation Officer
Megan Weiss, Acting Clerk of Bankruptcy Court
Peter Deegan, US Attorney
Tim Duax, Assistant US Attorney, Sioux City
Doug Strike, US Marshal
Jim Whalen, Federal Public Defender, Des Moines
Christopher Nathan, Assistant Federal Public Defender, Cedar Rapids
Bradley Hansen, Assistant Federal Public Defender, Sioux City
Diane Strawn, Iowa Field Office Director, GSA
Austin Puetz, Building Management Specialist, GSA, Cedar Rapids
Shaun Smith, Building Manager, GSA, Sioux City
Brittney Zumbach Carroll, Outreach Director, Senator Ernst's Office
Rochelle Fuller, Regional Director, Senator Grassley's Office
Bryan Woodward for posting on the external NDIA web-site



A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Kelly Kornegor". The signature is written in a cursive style and is positioned above a horizontal line.

Kelly Kornegor
Administrative Assistant