

**UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT
SOUTHERN DISTRICT OF INDIANA**

IN THE MATTER OF:
CONTINUED COURT OPERATIONS AND
RESUMPTION OF JURY TRIALS UNDER
THE EXIGENT CIRCUMSTANCES CREATED BY
COVID-19 AND RELATED CORONAVIRUS

GENERAL ORDER

During the months of March, April, May, June, and July 2020, the United States District Court for the Southern District of Indiana issued several General Orders regarding Court operations in light of the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic. To the extent this Order differs from previous orders of the Court on this subject, this Order supersedes and replaces those Orders.

I. Jury Trials

Jury trials will resume on or after September 1, 2020. The resumption of jury trials does not preclude a Judge from continuing a jury trial for reasons related to the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic nor, for criminal jury trials, making the necessary findings to exclude any such delay under the Speedy Trial Act.

II. Juror Deferral Authority

With jury trials resuming on or after September 1, 2020, effective immediately:


Pursuant to Section 15(a) of the Court's Plan for the Random Selection of Grand and Petit Jurors and 28 U.S.C. § 1866(c)(1), the Clerk, under supervision of the Court, may temporarily excuse any person summoned for jury service upon a showing of undue hardship or extreme inconvenience, for such a period as the Court deems necessary, at the conclusion of which such person either will be summoned again for jury service or the name of such person will be reinserted into the qualified

jury wheel for selection. Until the Court orders otherwise, upon a person's written request, the Clerk, through the Jury Administrators, shall temporarily excuse for undue hardship or extreme inconvenience any potential juror who:

1. At the time of request has ongoing symptoms of COVID-19 or tests positive for COVID-19;
2. Is in a category deemed at high risk of COVID-19 infection by the CDC or federal, state, or local public health authorities;
3. Is quarantined due to exposure to a person testing positive for COVID-19;
4. Is caring for a family member or other dependent with symptoms of COVID-19 or who has tested positive for COVID-19; or
5. Is a healthcare professional whose current employment is essential to the care and/or treatment of patients occasioned by the COVID-19 pandemic.

IT IS SO ORDERED.

Date: 8/24/2020


Hon. Jane Magnus-Stinson, Chief Judge
United States District Court
Southern District of Indiana