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JUNE 24, 2020

CLERK US DISTRICT COURT
DISTRICT OF ARIZONA

BY s/ M. Everette DEPUTY

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**IN THE UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT
FOR THE DISTRICT OF ARIZONA**

In the matter of

THE EXTENSION OF
THE CARES ACT AUTHORIZATION
AND MISCELLANEOUS COURT
OPERATIONS UNDER THE EXIGENT
CIRCUMSTANCES CREATED BY
CORONAVIRUS DISEASE (COVID-19)

GENERAL ORDER 20-30

WHEREAS, the Chief Judge of this Court is required by the CARES Act to “review the authorization [to conduct various proceedings by video and audio conferencing] and determine whether to extend the authorization,” CARES Act § 15002(b)(3)(A);

WHEREAS, the number of daily diagnosed cases of COVID-19 have recently and considerably increased in the State of Arizona resulting from, among other factors, increased community spread. This increase has caused an increase in the number of hospital beds necessary in this state for COVID-19 patients;

WHEREAS, COVID-19 cases have existed and do exist in the various prison facilities which house detainees that are involved in proceedings before this court. Some of that population have been and are now subject to quarantine and others to isolation;

WHEREAS, an increase in COVID-19 cases have been reported in the Mexican states bordering Arizona;


WHEREAS, various court employees, probation staff, United States Marshal’s staff, Core Civic staff and others who are necessary to the housing, care, transportation, processing and supervision of detainees and those on supervised release have been exposed

1 to and infected by COVID-19;

2 NOW THEREFORE, It is ordered:

- 3 1. Extending the authorization to conduct various proceedings by video and audio
4 conferencing authorized by the CARES Act and by this Court's General Order 20-
5 18 issued on March 30, 2020, for a period of 90 days up until September 22, 2020.
- 6 2. Extending the partial closure of the Flagstaff Courthouse as set forth in GO 20-16
7 and extended through GO 20-19, GO 20-25 and GO 20-26 until further notice.
- 8 3. Extending the moratorium on jury trials in the Flagstaff Courthouse until further
9 notice.
- 10 4. Extending the limited authorization to conduct proceedings in the Yuma Courthouse
11 as set forth in GO 20-15 and GO 20-26 until further notice.
- 12 5. Extending the closure of the customer service counters in the Clerk's Offices in
13 Phoenix, Tucson, and Yuma to the public until further notice.
- 14 6. The District Court is authorized to conduct limited naturalization ceremonies to the
15 extent required for those candidates seeking name changes or for other necessary
16 reasons. Limited administrative ceremonies for those not needing name changes,
17 and as are conducted in compliance with CDC requirements, are conducted at
18 USCIS facilities. Naturalization ceremonies that are conducted in a courthouse
19 must be conducted using appropriate social distancing and in accord with CDC
20 guidelines and the other requirements for courthouse entry set forth in GO 20-26.
21 Aside from necessary court staff and USCIS officers which shall be limited to the
22 greatest extent possible, the candidates for citizenship, and interpreters if required,
23 shall be the only persons attending such ceremonies. The numbers of such
24 participants per ceremony shall be limited to comply with the above guidelines. The
25 ceremonies will be shortened at the discretion of the judge presiding and the
26 candidates for citizenship may proceed by affirmation of the oath rather than
27 repeating the oath.

28 DATED this 24th day of June, 2020.


G. Murray Snow
Chief United States District Judge