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JANUARY 7, 2022  
  
CLERK US DISTRICT COURT  
DISTRICT OF ARIZONA  
  
BY s/M. Everett DEPUTY

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

In the matter of  
  
COURT OPERATIONS UNDER THE  
EXIGENT CIRCUMSTANCES CREATED  
BY THE OMICRON VARIANT OF  
CORONAVIRUS DISEASE (COVID-19)

GENERAL ORDER 22-02

This General Order will address a temporary change in Court policies given the arrival of the Omicron variant and a significant increase in the number of Coronavirus Disease 2019 (COVID-19) cases

In the last month, the average daily number of individuals testing positive for COVID-19 has increased exponentially and hospitalizations continue to rise in the District of Arizona. This surge was predicted by local public health officials and attributed to the arrival of the Omicron variant.

To immediately protect individuals and to avoid contributing to the spread of the virus, the Court ORDERS that the procedures of General Order 21-18 will be temporarily modified as follows:

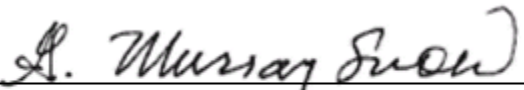
- All civil and criminal jury trials scheduled to commence on or before January 31, 2022, are continued unless ordered otherwise by the assigned judge.
- In-person civil and criminal hearings may proceed as scheduled. The Court encourages parties to consider a continuance or holding such proceedings using audio and video conference technology.

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- Criminal proceedings before Magistrate Judges, such as initial appearances, detention hearings, and arraignments, shall be conducted using audio and video conference technology until January 31, 2022, unless the Magistrate Judge decides that the proceedings must be conducted in person at the courthouse.
- Grand Jury proceedings are suspended until further notice.
- Naturalization ceremonies are suspended until further notice.
- Limited attorney admission ceremonies may proceed as scheduled.
- Courthouses remain closed for public events and tours.
- All other procedures in General Order 21-18 shall remain in effect.

The Court will revisit these procedures prior to February 1, 2022.

Dated this 7<sup>th</sup> day of January, 2022.

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
G. Murray Snow  
Chief United States District Judge