

UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT  
DISTRICT OF MINNESOTA

IN RE: UPDATED GUIDANCE TO COURT OPERATIONS  
UNDER THE EXIGENT CIRCUMSTANCES CREATED BY  
COVID-19

**GENERAL ORDER**  
**No. 10**

WHEREAS, the Court has issued a series of General Orders re: Court Operations Under the Exigent Circumstances Created by COVID-19, which are available on the Court's website at [www.mnd.uscourts.gov](http://www.mnd.uscourts.gov);

WHEREAS, the President of the United States of America has declared a national emergency in response to COVID-19;

WHEREAS, the Governor of the State of Minnesota has declared a peacetime emergency to coordinate Minnesota's strategy to protect Minnesotans from COVID-19 and has extended the peacetime emergency through May 13, 2020;

WHEREAS, the Governor of the State of Minnesota has issued Emergency Executive Order 20-33, Extending Stay at Home Order and Temporary Closure of Bars, Restaurants, and Other Places of Public Accommodation, through May 3, 2020;

WHEREAS, the Emergency Executive Order 20-33, Extending Stay at Home Order, does not limit, prohibit, or restrict in any way the operations of the federal government, or the movement of federal officials in Minnesota while acting in their official capacity, including federal judicial staff and personnel;

WHEREAS, the Judges of the United States District Court, District of Minnesota, have considered and extensively discussed the various interests implicated by the COVID-19 outbreak and any court response to the outbreak, including: the health of jurors, witnesses, parties, attorneys, the public, court staff, and judges; the constitutional rights of criminal defendants and other parties; and the public's interest in, and the court's duty to ensure, the effective and expeditious administration of justice;

NOW THEREFORE, to continue to protect public health and respond to the COVID-19 outbreak and provide for the effective administration of criminal justice, **IT IS HEREBY ORDERED**, that:

FILED 4/20/2020  
KATE M. FOGARTY

JUDGMENT ENTD  
DEPUTY CLERK AKS

1. Grand Jury proceedings are suspended until May 14, 2020. Due to the continuing unavailability of a grand jury in this District from March 16, 2020 to May 14, 2020, the 30-day time period for filing an indictment is tolled as to each defendant through May 14, 2020. See 18 U.S.C. § 3161(b).
2. Grand jury proceedings may only proceed on May 14, 2020, if safeguards have been implemented that will protect the health and safety of grand jury participants. Such safeguards must include appropriate social distancing and may include grand jurors appearing by videoconference.
3. The series of General Orders entered by this Court since March 26, 2020, remain in effect, except for any changes addressed in this Order.
4. This order will remain in effect until further order of the Court.

Dated in Minneapolis, Minnesota, April 20, 2020 at 11:30 a.m.



JOHN R. TUNHEIM  
Chief Judge  
United States District Court