

MAR 23 2020

JAMES N. HATTEN, Clerk
By: *gmetz* Deputy Clerk

UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT
NORTHERN DISTRICT OF GEORGIA

**IN RE: RESTRICTIONS ON VISITORS
TO THE ROME COURTHOUSE AND
FEDERAL BUILDING**

GENERAL ORDER 20-03

ORDER

The General Service Administration (GSA) having certified the completion of appropriate cleaning of the Rome Courthouse and Federal Building following a possible coronavirus contamination, this Court's Order 20-02, temporarily closing the Rome Courthouse and Federal Building, is **vacated**.

Recognizing a Public Health Emergency continues in effect for the State; and noting the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) warning to the public to take precautions in light of the COVID-19 (coronavirus) pandemic, and having been advised that the best way to prevent illness is to avoid being exposed to this virus, it is hereby ORDERED that:

1. Persons falling into one of the following categories shall be denied admittance to the courthouse unless an exception is provided by a

U.S. District Judge:

- a. Anyone who has traveled to a foreign country within the 14 days immediately preceding attempted access to the courthouse;

- b. Anyone who has resided with or has had close contact with someone who has traveled to one of the above areas within the last 14 days;
- c. Anyone who has been asked to self-quarantine by any healthcare provider or who lives with someone who has been asked to self- quarantine;
- d. Anyone who has been diagnosed with COVID-19 or has had direct contact with anyone who has been so diagnosed; and
- e. Anyone who, exhibiting any symptoms of illness, is deemed by the Court or a Court Security Officer as a public health or safety threat.

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that in addition to the individuals specifically restricted from admittance by Paragraph 1, the following additional restrictions apply:

- access to the Rome Courthouse and Federal Building is further restricted to judges, court staff, and employees, those with offices or official responsibilities in the building, and members of the public with official business with the Court or any agency in the building including attorneys, witnesses, and family members required for Court hearings.

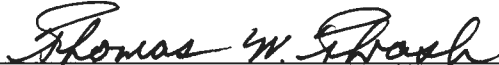
The District Clerk's Offices, shall remain open, but employees will adhere to social distancing in their interactions.

ANYONE ATTEMPTING TO ENTER THE ROME COURTHOUSE IN VIOLATION OF THIS ORDER WILL BE DENIED ENTRY BY A COURT SECURITY OFFICER.

The Court will continue to assess the ongoing need for the entry restrictions and update such restrictions as warranted. The Court takes this temporary action in response to the COVID-19 pandemic and out of concern for the health and safety of the Rome Courthouse community.

Questions regarding this Order or any other matter, may be directed to the Clerk's Office at (706) 378-4084.

Dated this 23 day of March 2020.



THOMAS W. THRASH, JR.
CHIEF UNITED STATES DISTRICT JUDGE
NORTHERN DISTRICT OF GEORGIA