

UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT
NORTHERN DISTRICT OF GEORGIA

JUL 10 2020

JAMES N. HATTEN, Clerk
By: *J. Motz* Deputy Clerk

**IN RE: COURT OPERATIONS UNDER
THE EXIGENT CIRCUMSTANCES
CREATED BY COVID-19 AND RELATED
CORONAVIRUS**

**GENERAL ORDER 20-01
Fifth Amendment**

ORDER

General Order 20-01, dated March 16, 2020, and amended by orders dated March 30, 2020; April 30, 2020; May 26, 2020; and July 1, 2020, addresses Court operations for the United States District Court for the Northern District of Georgia under the exigent circumstances created by the spread of COVID-19. The Fourth Amendment to General Order 20-01, entered July 1, 2020, extended the time periods specified in the Order through and including July 31, 2020.

Data from the Georgia Department of Public Health reflects that the average number of new COVID-19 cases per day in the State of Georgia has increased and remains higher than it was on March 16, 2020, when the Court originally entered General Order 20-01. The total number of COVID-19 cases and deaths in Georgia continues to rise, and no vaccine or cure is available to the general public. There has been no change to the President's declaration of a national emergency under the National Emergencies Act (50 U.S.C. § 1601 et seq.) due to COVID-19 or to the findings of the Judicial Conference of the United States that emergency conditions due to this national emergency have materially affected and will materially affect the functioning of the federal courts generally.


As the adverse conditions giving rise to General Order 20-01 have not sufficiently resolved for the Court to return to normal operations, **IT IS HEREBY ORDERED** that General Order 20-01, as amended, is further amended to extend the time periods specified therein through and including the date of August 30, 2020.

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that while there will be no civil or criminal jury trials in any division of the Northern District of Georgia until after August 30, 2020, grand jury proceedings may continue to be held, and summonses may be issued to prospective jurors for proceedings scheduled to begin after August 30, 2020.

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that the time period of any continuance entered as a result of this Order (whether that continuance causes a pre-indictment delay or a pre-trial delay) shall be excluded under the Speedy Trial Act, 18 U.S.C. § 3161(h)(7)(A), as the Court finds that the ends of justice served by taking that action outweigh the interests of the parties and the public in a speedy trial. Absent further order of the Court or any individual judge, the period of exclusion shall be from March 23, 2020, through and including August 30, 2020. The Court may extend the period of exclusion as circumstances may warrant. This Order and period of exclusion are incorporated by reference as a specific finding under 18 U.S.C. § 3161(h)(7)(A) in the record of each pending case where the Speedy Trial Act applies. *See Zedner v. United States*, 547 U.S. 489, 506-07 (2006). The periods of exclusion in the Court's prior orders on this subject, General Order 20-01 and its subsequent amendments, are likewise incorporated by reference as a specific finding

under 18 U.S.C. § 3161(h)(7)(A) in the record of each pending case where the Speedy Trial Act applies.

SO ORDERED this 10 day of July 2020.



THOMAS W. THRASH, JR.
CHIEF UNITED STATES DISTRICT JUDGE