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Date: Apr 18, 2023

KEVIN P. WEIMER, Clerk

By: s/Judith Motz

Deputy Clerk

UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT
NORTHERN DISTRICT OF GEORGIA

IN RE: COVID-19 GENERAL AND
ADMINISTRATIVE ORDERS

GENERAL ORDER 23-02

ORDER

On April 10, 2023, following House and Senate passage, President Biden signed into law a Joint Resolution (H.J. Res. 7) that terminated the COVID-19 National Emergency Declaration President Trump made on March 13, 2020. At the same time, the COVID-19 Public Health Emergency declared under section 319 of the Public Health Service Act is expected to end on May 11, 2023. Due to these developments, the Court has revisited its previously entered general and administrative orders relating to COVID-19 and hereby **ORDERS** as follows:

(1) **General Order 21-04** as amended, which requires entrance screening and, under certain circumstance, mask wearing, is hereby **VACATED** effective May 11, 2023. However, until further notice any juror who is exposed to COVID-19 or tests positive for COVID-19 at any time within ten days prior to jury service must not report for service but instead must contact the jury office at 404-215-1640 for further instructions. Pursuant to their inherent authority, individual judges may require participants to wear masks in proceedings over which they preside.

(2) By its terms, **General Order 20-04** as amended, which authorizes video and telephone conferencing in certain criminal proceedings due to COVID-19 pursuant to the CARES Act, will terminate on May 10, 2023, the date that is 30 days after the termination of the COVID-19 National Emergency Declaration. After May 10th, use of video or telephone conferencing technologies in criminal cases must comply with the Federal Rules of Criminal Procedure and any relevant statutes independent of the CARES Act.

(3) **General Order 20-05** has authorized CJA panel attorneys to submit claims for interim compensation. While it initially was intended as a temporary procedure, the Court finds that it is a useful option that should continue. Therefore, the procedures allowing interim compensation for CJA panel attorneys set forth in **General Order 20-05** will remain in force until further notice.

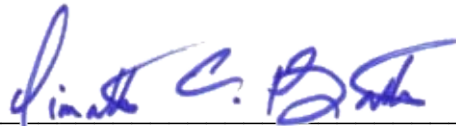
(4) **General Order 20-06** has authorized electronic filing of sealed documents in criminal cases. While initially intended as a temporary procedure, the Court finds that it is a useful option that should continue. Therefore, the procedures allowing the filing of sealed documents in criminal cases set forth in **General Order 20-06** will remain in force until further notice.

(5) The Judicial Conference of the United States has extended its temporary exception to the Judiciary's broadcasting policy to allow the use of teleconferencing

technology to provide audio-only remote access to district court proceedings for the public and the media. Therefore, **Administrative Order 20-03**, which authorizes public and media access to video and telephone conference proceedings, is hereby **AMENDED** to authorize audio-only remote access to Court proceedings for the public and media and **EXTENDED** until audio-only remote public access no longer is permitted by the Judicial Conference. This extension is retroactive to April 10, 2023.

This Order supersedes all other previous orders to the extent they are inconsistent with this Order. This Order will remain in effect until further notice.

SO ORDERED this 18th day of April 2023.

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Timothy C. Batten, Sr.", is written above a horizontal line.

TIMOTHY C. BATTEN, SR.
CHIEF UNITED STATES DISTRICT JUDGE