

**IN THE UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT  
FOR THE MIDDLE DISTRICT OF PENNSYLVANIA**

**IN RE:** : **GENERAL ORDER 20-01 (Supp.)**  
:   
**GENERAL CONTINUANCE** :   
**OF HEARINGS AND** :   
**PROCEEDINGS DUE TO PUBLIC** :   
**HEALTH CONCERNS** :

The General Order 20-01 of March 13, 2020 is incorporated by reference and supplemented as follows:

1. The United States District Court for the Middle District of Pennsylvania will remain open for official business subject, however, to the directives set forth in the General Orders of the Court.
2. General Orders of the Court do not impair, nor are they intended to impair, the trial, procedural, and substantive rights of litigants, particularly, the rights of criminal defendants to a speedy and public trial under the Sixth Amendment (and the particular application of this right in cases involving defendants who are detained pending trial). Any notice by a party seeking case-specific relief from the General Order of Continuance set forth in General Order 20-01 shall be directed to the judicial officer assigned to the matter.
3. The time-period of March 16, 2020 through April 30, 2020 shall be “excluded time” 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 such action materially outweigh the best interests of the public and the parties in a speedy trial. Specifically, such exclusion is necessary to assure that in cases going to trial, there is a full, unhindered, continuously serving jury venire and seated jury in every case, which is central to the sound administration of justice. Such exclusion of time is also necessary in cases not yet set for trial in order to address the reasonably anticipated difficulties in defense counsel communicating or visiting with clients (including those detained in locales and facilities under a declared state of emergency), and the inherent delay in the scheduling of further trials as a consequence of the exclusion period herein. The Court may by further Order extend the period of exclusion as circumstances may warrant, and the assigned judicial officer may by Order also do so as to any specific proceeding.

4. Sitting grand juries in each vicinage of the Court are authorized to continue to meet, but no new grand juries will be empaneled during the period of March 13, 2020 to April 30, 2020, or such other date set by the Court. In the event that a grand jury is unavailable in this District, the 30-day time period for filing an indictment or an information shall be tolled as to each defendant during the time period March 13, 2020 through April 30, 2020, pursuant to 18 U.S.C. § 3161(b).

BY THE COURT



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Christopher C. Conner, Chief Judge  
United States District Court  
Middle District of Pennsylvania

Dated: March 18, 2020