

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

IN RE: COURT OPERATIONS UNDER : STANDING ORDER 2020-21
THE EXIGENT CIRCUMSTANCES :
CREATED BY COVID-19 :

STANDING ORDER

AND NOW, this 28th day of July 2020, pursuant to previous Standing Orders by this Court in reference to the exigent circumstances created by COVID-19, and in order to further the public health and safety, the health and safety of Court personnel, counsel, litigants, other case participants, jurors, security personnel and the general public, and in order to reduce the number of gatherings necessarily attendant to trial jury selection in this Court, and in order to minimize travel by participants in Court proceedings, it is hereby **ORDERED** as follows:

1. Effective this date, all civil and criminal jury selections and jury trials in the Middle District of Pennsylvania scheduled to begin before August 17, 2020, are continued pending further Order of Court. The Court may issue further Orders concerning future general continuances of any matters as may be deemed necessary and appropriate. All jury selections and trials affected by this Order will be reset by further Order of the assigned judicial officer.
2. The time-period of July 28, 2020 through August 17, 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.

BY THE COURT:

s/ John E. Jones III
Hon. John E. Jones III, Chief Judge
United States District Court
Middle District of Pennsylvania