

**UNITED STATES BANKRUPTCY COURT
FOR THE DISTRICT OF ALASKA**

In the Matter of:

COURT OPERATIONS UNDER THE
EXIGENT CIRCUMSTANCES
CREATED BY CORONAVIRUS
DISEASE (COVID-19)

Misc. Proceeding No. 05-60001

GENERAL ORDER NO. 2020-3

WHEREAS, the President of the United States has declared a national emergency in response to the outbreak of COVID-19 (“Coronavirus”);

WHEREAS, the Governor of the State of Alaska has declared a state of emergency in response to the outbreak of COVID-19;

WHEREAS, the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention has recommended that throughout the United States, for at least eight weeks, all gatherings should be limited to no more than 10 people;

WHEREAS, local public health departments have recommended that large gatherings be avoided, that elderly and other vulnerable populations avoid person-to-person contact, and that employers allow employees to telework to the extent practical;

WHEREAS, to date, there are several persons within the District of Alaska that have been confirmed to be infected with COVID-19 and the number of those infected throughout the country continues to rise, causing an emergency pandemic;

WHEREAS, the United States District Court for the District of Alaska has issued its Temporary General Order Regarding Restrictions on Visitors to the Courthouse and

General Order Nos. 20-06 regarding the Coronavirus public emergency, implementing temporary emergency procedures;

WHEREAS, this Court has previously adopted the Temporary General Order Regarding Restrictions on Visitors to the Courthouse and General Order 20-06 of the District Court for the District of Alaska, and issued guidelines that all hearings before the court should be conducted telephonically. In light of continuing developments, the court finds it necessary and appropriate to adopt those guidelines within this order and take further action to protect public health through the aim of reducing the size of public gatherings, as well as balancing the fair administration of justice,

IT IS HEREBY ORDERED that effective Friday, March 20, 2020:

1. No in-court trial or evidentiary hearing will be commenced before May 1, 2020, unless otherwise order by the court. All trial or evidentiary hearing dates currently scheduled during that period shall be vacated and shall be reset for scheduling conferences by separate order within the individual cases.
2. There is no change to currently calendared motions or applications.
3. All counsel, parties and other interested persons who intend to appear on a calendared motion or application shall appear telephonically. There will be no physical access to the bankruptcy courtroom. The instructions for appearing by telephone can be found on the Bankruptcy Court's website: <http://www.akb.uscourts.gov>. There is NO COST for this service.
4. The Clerk's Office will be closed to the public beginning March 23, 2020. This closure does not affect any filings. Attorneys and pro se parties may continue to file documents with the Court. All deadlines will remain in full effect unless otherwise ordered by the

presiding judge.

5. Filings will be processed via the electronic filing system (CM/ECF) and via mail or delivery. Paper documents delivered to the courthouses must be deposited in drop boxes located in the lobby of the Historic Federal Courthouse located at 605 W. 4th Avenue, Anchorage, AK 99501. Drop-box access will be available between the hours of 8:30 a.m. to 12:00 p.m. and 1:00 p.m. to 4:30 p.m. on business days. Manual filings may be served on opposing parties without securing a file stamped copy.
6. Payments by check or money order will be accepted by mail or in the courthouse drop boxes during the hours noted above. **Cash payments will not be accepted during this period of exigent circumstances.**
7. Staff in the Clerk's Office will be available by telephone, mail will be received, and new filings will be processed. Contact information for the Clerk's Office in Anchorage is: (907) 271-2655.
8. Any requirement that counsel or parties provide courtesy copies of filings to chambers is suspended pending further notice.
9. This Order supersedes any inconsistent information or direction in any standing order or notice related to the Coronavirus Disease outbreak. The Court will vacate or amend this Order no later than **April 30, 2020.**

DATED: March 20, 2020

BY THE COURT

/s/ Gary Spraker

GARY SPRAKER

Chief United States Bankruptcy Judge

Distribution: Janet Stafford, Clerk of the Court
Honorable Timothy Burgess, Chief United States District Judge
Brian Karth, Clerk of the United States District Court
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