

September 3, 2021

At: 5:20 p.m.

William T. Walsh

Clerk

**IN THE UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT
FOR THE DISTRICT OF NEW JERSEY**

IN RE: COURT OPERATIONS UNDER THE :
EXIGENT CIRCUMSTANCES CREATED : **UPDATED AMENDED**
BY COVID-19 : **STANDING ORDER 2021-04**

WHEREAS, the transmission of COVID-19 has recently increased, due to the delta and other variants, and on July 27, 2021, the CDC recommended that all persons, including those fully vaccinated against COVID-19, wear a mask in public indoor settings, in areas of substantial or high transmission; and

WHEREAS, all 21 counties of New Jersey are now areas of high transmission, and accordingly, this Court has expanded its efforts to mitigate the spread of the virus by mandating full vaccination of its employees, while continuing its protocols of temperature screening and hand sanitizing by all entrants to the District's courthouses, and mask wearing in all public areas of Court facilities by entrants and occupants thereof, regardless of vaccination status; and

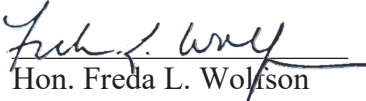
WHEREAS, it is therefore necessary that this Court continue to minimize contact among persons, while at the same time, preserve its core mission of serving the public through the fair and impartial administration of justice; and

NOW, THEREFORE, to further the health and safety of Court personnel, counsel, litigants, other case participants, jurors, security personnel and the general public, and to reduce the number of gatherings necessarily attendant to jury selection and trials in all vicinages of this Court, the Court deems it necessary and appropriate to amend Amended Standing Order 2021-04, and ORDERS as follows:

1. No more than one jury selection, either civil or criminal, shall occur in each vicinage of this Court at one time;
2. Multiple, simultaneous jury trials may be conducted in each of this Court's vicinages, but the number of simultaneous criminal jury trials involving detainees in each vicinage shall be limited by the capacity of the United States Marshals Service to manage the detainees, taking into consideration the number of cells available in the vicinage and the necessity of limiting each cell to one detainee, due to the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic;
3. Pursuant to this Court's Amended Standing Order 2021-02, until further Order of the Court, judicial proceedings, in both criminal and civil matters, shall continue to be conducted via video and teleconference whenever possible, to the extent consistent with the Second Extension of Standing Order 2021-03 ("In Re: Video Conferencing and Teleconferencing for Criminal Proceedings Under the CARES Act"); and

4. Except as otherwise provided herein, the provisions of Amended Standing Order 2021-04 shall remain in full force and effect; and
5. Additional Orders addressing Court Operations Under the Exigent Circumstances Created by COVID-19 shall be entered as warranted.

DATED: September 3, 2021


Hon. Freda L. Wolfson
U.S. Chief District Judge
District of New Jersey