

Eastern District of Kentucky
FILED
Apr - 06 2020
Robert R. Carr
Clerk, U.S. District Court

UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT
EASTERN DISTRICT OF KENTUCKY

In Re:

**COURT OPERATIONS RELATED
TO COVID-19**

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**GENERAL ORDER
No. 20-07**

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Being sufficiently advised, it is hereby

ORDERED as follows:

General Order No. 20-05, entered March 30, 2020, is **AMENDED** to authorize the use of video conferencing, or telephone conferencing if video conferencing is not reasonably available, for **ALL EVENTS** listed in Section 15002(b) of The CARES Act, H.R. 748.

At this time and pursuant to Section 15002(b)(2), I find that felony pleas under Rule 11 of the Federal Rules of Criminal Procedure and felony sentencing under Rule 32 of the Federal Rules of Criminal Procedure cannot be conducted in person in this district without seriously jeopardizing public health and safety. As a result, if a judge in an individual case finds, for specific reasons, that a felony plea or sentencing in that case cannot be further delayed without serious harm to the interest of justice¹, the judge may, with consent of the defendant after consultation with counsel, use video conferencing, or teleconferencing if video conferencing is not reasonably available, for the felony plea or sentencing in that case. Judges may also use this authority for equivalent events in juvenile cases described in Section 15002(b)(2)(B).

¹ General Order No. 20-05 is further amended to reflect that this finding is not required for events listed in Section 15002(b)(1) of the legislation.

Pursuant to Section 15002(b)(3) of the legislation, this authorization will remain in effect for 90 days commencing on March 30, 2020, unless terminated earlier. If emergency conditions continue to exist 90 days after March 30, 2020, I will review this authorization and determine whether to extend it.

Dated: April 6, 2020.



A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Danny C. Reeves".

Danny C. Reeves, Chief Judge
United States District Court
Eastern District of Kentucky