

**IN THE UNITED STATES DISTRICT AND BANKRUPTCY COURTS  
FOR THE DISTRICT OF IDAHO**

**In Re**

**CONTINUED COURT OPERATIONS  
IN RESPONSE TO CORONAVIRUS  
(COVID-19)**

**GENERAL ORDER NO. 365**

On March 17, 2020, General Order No. 360 was issued in response to the outbreak of Coronavirus (COVID-19). The Order limited public access to the District’s courthouses and continued all grand jury and petit jury trials scheduled to commence before May 11, 2020. On March 25, 2020, Governor Little issued a statewide Order To Self-Isolate directing all citizens to self-isolate at their place of residence until April 15, 2020. On March 27, 2020, General Order No. 362 was issued, superseding General Order No. 360 and closing the Court-occupied floors in the McClure courthouse in Boise, as well as closing the Coeur d’Alene and Pocatello courthouses, except for essential hearings as determined by the presiding judge. The order also expired on April 15, 2020.

On April 15, 2020, Governor Little amended the Order To Self-Isolate, again urging citizens to self-isolate at their place of residence, and extending the deadline to April 30, 2020.

The Court finds that the current guidance of State and National public health officials and the declarations of Governor Little and President Trump require the Courthouses to remain closed. The Court now adopts its previous findings on this matter contained in the prior orders. The Court further finds that the pandemic continues worldwide and indeed may not yet have reached its peak in the United States. Likewise, the Court notes that there are over 1,400 cases in the State of Idaho, indicating community transmission in many locations. Nonetheless, the State and National public health officials have found that the practice of “social distancing” is reducing the spread of the virus but the practice must continue for the foreseeable future.

**IT IS HEREBY ORDERED:** The fourth, fifth and sixth floors of the James A. McClure Federal Building and United States Courthouse in Boise, Idaho, which are the floors occupied by the federal courts, and the Coeur d’Alene and Pocatello courthouses, shall remain closed through May 11, 2020 except for essential hearings. The determination of which hearings are essential will be left to the presiding judge. Any hearing deemed essential will be conducted with the least number of persons as possible in the actual courtroom, as determined by the presiding judge. Video and telephonic means will be utilized to the extent possible.

**IT IS FURTHER ORDERED** that all grand juries are suspended through May 31, 2020, absent an order by the chief judge. Civil and criminal petit jury

selections and trials scheduled to commence now through May 31, 2020 before any district or magistrate judge in the District of Idaho are CONTINUED, absent an order by the presiding judge.

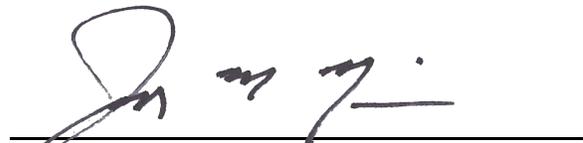
The Court continues to find that, due to the current inability to obtain an adequate spectrum of jurors and the effect of the above public health situation on the availability of witnesses, counsel and Court staff to be present in the courtroom, the time period of the continuances implemented by this General Order will be excluded under the Speedy Trial Act, as the Court finds that the ends of justice served by ordering the continuances outweigh the best interests of the public and any defendant's right to a speedy trial, pursuant to 18 U.S.C. §3161(h)(7)(A).

All provisions of General Order No. 362 remain in effect until May 11, 2020, except as otherwise noted herein.

DATED: this 16<sup>th</sup> day of April, 2020.



David C. Nye  
Chief Judge  
United States District Court



Joseph M. Meier  
Chief Judge  
United States Bankruptcy Court