

IN THE UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT
FOR THE MIDDLE DISTRICT OF NORTH CAROLINA



IN RE:)
RESTRICTIONS ON VISITORS) STANDING ORDER 12
TO COURTHOUSES) (AMENDED)

ATTENTION ALL ENTRANTS

The United States District Court for the Middle District of North Carolina has been closely monitoring the outbreak of the novel coronavirus known as COVID-19, including directives and executive orders issued by the President of the United States and Governor of North Carolina, as well as guidance issued by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention and other public health authorities have advised taking precautions to reduce the possibility of exposure to the virus and slow the spread of the disease. In order to protect public health, and in order to reduce the size of public gatherings and reduce unnecessary travel, the United States District Court for the Middle District of North Carolina hereby issues the following order:

IT IS HEREBY ORDERED by the United States District Court for the Middle District of North Carolina that only those with official business are permitted to enter. For purposes of those conducting business with the United States District Court, no members of the public, other than litigants with a scheduled proceeding, counsel of record, investigators or employees of counsel, and credentialed press, may enter any U.S. Courthouse in the Middle District of North Carolina without prior permission from the Chief Judge; while all litigants are encouraged to file documents electronically, members of the public will retain access to a drop box at the entrance of

the Greensboro courthouse to deposit papers between 9:00 a.m. and 3:00 p.m., Monday through Friday;

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that the following persons **shall not** enter any U.S. Courthouse, combined Courthouse/Federal Facility or U.S. Probation Office in the Middle District of North Carolina without prior permission from the Chief Judge or designee:

- Persons who have traveled outside of the United States within the last 14 days, in the states of WASHINGTON, NEW YORK, and CALIFORNIA or any area that has been declared in quarantine.
- Persons who reside or have had close contact with someone who has been in one of the countries or states listed above within the last 14 days;
- Persons displaying symptoms of COVID-19, including fever, cough, or shortness of breath;
- Persons who have been diagnosed with, or have had contact with, anyone who has been diagnosed with COVID-19; and
- Persons who have been asked to self-quarantine by any doctor, hospital, or health agency;

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that the United States Marshal, his Deputies, and the Court Security Officers shall deny entry to anyone attempting to enter in violation of this Order;

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that if you are scheduled or required to appear at a U.S. Courthouse or U.S. Probation Office in the Middle District of North Carolina, and you are unable to appear because of the restrictions in this Order, you are directed to

proceed as follows:

- If you are represented by an attorney, please contact your attorney;
- If you are an attorney and you are scheduled to appear in court before a Judge, please contact that chambers directly;
- If you are scheduled to meet with a Probation Officer, please contact the Probation Office at (336) 358-4200;
- If you are a juror, please contact the Jury Coordinator at (336) 332-6040;
- For Bankruptcy Court matters, please contact the Clerk's Office in Greensboro at (336) 358-4000 or in Winston-Salem at (336) 397-7785;
- For Section 341 Meetings of Creditors, please contact the U.S. Bankruptcy Administrator at (336) 358-4170; and
- For District Court matters, please contact the Clerk's Office at (336) 332-6000;

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that if you are scheduled or required to meet with any other tenant of the U.S. Courthouse or U.S. Probation Office in the Middle District of North Carolina, and you are unable to appear because of the restrictions in this Order, you are directed to contact the tenant's agency (contact numbers may be posted separately from this Order);

These restrictions will remain in place temporarily until it is determined to be safe to remove them.

Persons who believe they may have been exposed to the COVID-19 virus should contact their healthcare provider immediately.

This Order shall be updated as further guidance is received.

This the 24th day of March, 2020.

/s/ Thomas D. Schroeder
Thomas D. Schroeder, Chief Judge
United States District Court