

**UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT
EASTERN DISTRICT OF LOUISIANA**

**COVID-19
AMENDED GENERAL ORDER NO. 20-5
April 3, 2020**

This order is being issued in response to the recent outbreak of the Coronavirus Disease (COVID-19) in the United States, the State of Louisiana and specifically New Orleans, Louisiana. The World Health Organization has declared that COVID-19 qualifies as a global pandemic, having spread across more than 190 countries and territories with more than 240,000 confirmed cases in the United States and 10,297 (as of this order) in Louisiana. New Orleans, where the Eastern District of Louisiana federal courthouse is located, continues to lead the state with 3,476 coronavirus cases in Orleans Parish.

The President of the United States, Governor of the State of Louisiana, and the Mayor of the City of New Orleans have declared a public health emergency throughout the country, State and the City, respectively in response to the spread of COVID-19; and

The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) and other public health authorities have recommended social distancing as a means of limiting further community spread of COVID-19; and

The State of Louisiana has issued a Stay at Home Order directing all Louisiana residents to shelter at home and limit movements outside of their homes beyond essential needs;

Accordingly, to combat the spread of the disease, given the severity of risks posed to the public, Court staff, and other Court agencies, and considering the public health recommendations from the CDC, the undersigned as Chief Judge of the United States District Court for the Eastern District of Louisiana hereby issues the following order:

Effective immediately, the Hale Boggs Federal Building located at 500 Poydras Street, New Orleans, Louisiana, which houses the United States District Court as well as the United States Bankruptcy Court for the Eastern District of Louisiana, is closed to the general public. The District Court and Bankruptcy Court are operating with skeletal crews to perform critical mission responsibilities. Litigants may file documents electronically, by U.S. mail, or by facsimile.

The public is encouraged to use online Court resources for the District Court <http://www.laed.uscourts.gov> and the Bankruptcy Court <http://www.laeb.uscourts.gov> or contact the Court by telephone with any questions.

Documents may be filed electronically through the District Court's electronic filing system, CM-ECF, which remains fully operational. Unrepresented persons may send filings to the District Court electronically at prosedocs@laed.uscourts.gov; by U.S. mail to The Clerk's Office, U.S. District Court, Eastern District of Louisiana, 500 Poydras Street, Room C-151, New Orleans, LA 70130; or by facsimile to (504) 310-8159. The District Court Clerk's Office Intake Unit may be reached at (504) 589-7674 and the Pro Se Unit may be reached at (504) 589-7751.

Documents may be filed electronically through the Bankruptcy Court's electronic filing system, CM-ECF, which remains fully operational. Unrepresented persons may send filings to the Bankruptcy Court electronically at Orders_Clerk@laeb.uscourts.gov; by U.S. mail to The Clerk's Office, U.S. Bankruptcy Court, Eastern District of Louisiana, 500 Poydras Street, Suite B-601, New Orleans, LA 70130; or by facsimile to (504) 589-7866. The Bankruptcy Court Clerk's Office may be reached at (504) 589-7878.

This order will remain in effect until further order of the Court.

IT IS ORDERED.

New Orleans, Louisiana, this 3rd day of April, 2020.

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Nannette Jolivette Brown". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

**NANNETTE JOLIVETTE BROWN
CHIEF JUDGE
UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT
EASTERN DISTRICT OF LOUISIANA**