

UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT  
MIDDLE DISTRICT OF LOUISIANA

IN RE:

GENERAL ORDER  
NO. 2021-7

RESPONSE TO IMPACT  
OF HURRICANE IDA

**OMNIBUS ORDER SUSPENDING DEADLINES**

On August 29, 2021, Hurricane Ida made landfall in Louisiana as a Category 4 hurricane, resulting in the disruption of services and communication in the region, as well as extensive property damage. Members of the bar have informed the Court that they are currently unable to resume normal office operations due to road closures, damage due to high winds and flooding, and extensive loss of power and communication services.

The Court, considering the state of emergency declared statewide by Governor John Bel Edwards as a result of then Tropical Storm IDA in Proclamation 165 JBE 2021 on August 26, 2021 and the catastrophic damage that Hurricane Ida caused in the state, therefore, on its own motion finds that the federal courthouse and the office of the Clerk of Court, were not meaningfully accessible within the meaning of Fed. R. Civ. P. 6(a) and Fed. R. App. P. 26(a) for the period of time beginning on August 26, 2021 and continuing for thirty (30) days thereafter.

The Court also finds that extraordinary circumstances exist such that the interests of justice are served, and the interests of the public and of the criminal defendants affected are outweighed, by a temporary exclusion of all criminal cases from the time requirements of the Speedy Trial Act, 18 U.S.C. § 3161 beginning on August 26, 2021 and continuing for

thirty (30) days thereafter.

Accordingly, IT IS ORDERED:

1. That all deadlines and delays, including prescriptive and preemptive periods, in cases pending or to be filed in this Court are hereby suspended for thirty (30) days commencing from August 26, 2021.
2. Pursuant to 18 U.S.C. § 3161(h)(8)(A), all pending criminal cases are excluded from the time requirements of the Speedy Trial Act for thirty (30) days commencing from August 26, 2021.

**SO ORDERED** on September 2, 2021

**FOR THE COURT:**



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SHELLY D. DICK  
CHIEF UNITED STATES DISTRICT JUDGE  
UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT  
MIDDLE DISTRICT OF LOUISIANA