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UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT
CENTRAL DISTRICT OF CALIFORNIA

IN RE:)
CORONAVIRUS PUBLIC) AMENDED
EMERGENCY) GENERAL ORDER NO. 20-08
ORDER CONCERNING PHASED) (Supersedes General Order No. 20-
REOPENING OF THE COURT) 05)

WHEREAS, the number of people infected by the COVID-19 virus, also known as “Coronavirus,” continues to grow, with thousands of confirmed cases and deaths in the Central District of California; and

WHEREAS, the rate of infection from the COVID-19 virus has slowed in California in recent weeks and a phased reopening of businesses has begun throughout the state; and

WHEREAS, the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention and other public health authorities have advised the taking of precautions to reduce the possibility of exposure to the virus and slow the spread of the disease, including implementing physical distancing and reducing the size of in-person gatherings;

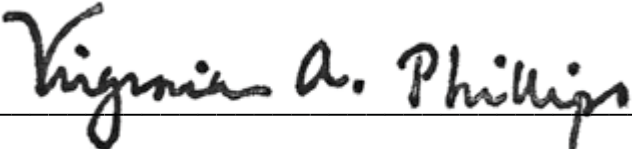
Upon a unanimous vote, in order to protect public health, and in order to reduce the size of public gatherings and reduce unnecessary travel, the Court orders as

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1. The Plan for Phased Resumption of Operations (“Reopening Plan”) is adopted. The Reopening Plan has three distinct Phases, as follows:
 - a. Phase 1 (return of certain staff to the courthouses to prepare for limited in-court hearings) will be implemented no earlier than June 1, 2020;
 - b. Phase 2 (reopening courthouses for limited in-court hearings) will be implemented three weeks after Phase 1 and no earlier than June 22, 2020; and
 - c. Phase 3 (resumption of jury trials) will be implemented at a date to be determined.
 2. The Court will determine when to implement each Phase based on a recommendation from the Working Group of Judges, the District Court Executive/Clerk of Court, and staff, in consultation with federal, state, and local public health directives and guidance. The date determined for each Phase’s implementation is subject to change based on the circumstances at the time and directives from local, state, and federal public health authorities.
 3. Judges will determine when their chambers staff will return to work at the courthouses during each Phase of reopening. The District Court Executive/Clerk of Court will determine when and which Clerk’s Office and Probation and Pretrial Services Office staff will return to the courthouses during each Phase of reopening.
 4. The Court’s Continuity of Operations Plan (“COOP”) remains activated and is extended through and including the implementation of Phase 2 of the Reopening Plan, i.e., at least through June 22, 2020.

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5. Hearings in civil cases will continue to proceed by video and telephonic conference. Hearings in emergency civil matters may proceed in-court when the Court enters Phase 2 of the reopening.
 6. Hearings by video and telephonic conference may continue to be held in certain criminal matters as set forth in Order of the Chief Judge No. 20-043. Hearings in any criminal matter may proceed in-court when the Court enters Phase 2 of the reopening, at the discretion of the assigned Judge.
 7. Criminal bench duty for all divisions will continue to take place in the Roybal Courthouse in Los Angeles, by video or telephonic conference with the defendant's consent and in-court absent consent.
 8. In-person meetings of the grand juries may resume at the discretion of the Chief Judge.
 9. The Bankruptcy Court will issue separate guidance for reconstituting its operations.
 10. The naturalization ceremonies scheduled through the end of September 2020 are cancelled. The Court delegates authority to the United States Citizenship and Immigration Service to administer the oath of citizenship to applicants scheduled to be naturalized at those ceremonies.

21 IT IS SO ORDERED.

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CHIEF UNITED STATES DISTRICT JUDGE

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Date of Approval by the Court: May 27, 2020

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Date of Filing by the Clerk: May 28, 2020