

**IN THE UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT
FOR THE EASTERN DISTRICT OF VIRGINIA
Alexandria Division**

RAI STRATEGIC HOLDINGS, INC., et. al.,)	
)	
<i>Plaintiffs,</i>)	
)	
v.)	Civil Action No. 1:20-cv-393
)	Hon. Liam O'Grady
ALTRIA CLIENT SERVICES, LLC, et. al.,)	
)	
<i>Defendants.</i>)	
)	
)	

ORDER


The Court regrets to inform the Parties of the need to continue the trial date in this case from the week of April 4, 2022. The unprecedented pandemic and the resultant strain on the entire judicial system has required the Court to move its previously scheduled criminal trial to the week preceding the original trial date set in this case. That criminal case, *USA vs. Peter Le* case no. 19-cr-57, was moved from February 7, 2022 due to complications from the coronavirus and other procedural issues. The multiple defendants in that case have been incarcerated for over two years while awaiting a trial that has been repeatedly moved. Currently defense attorneys have been unable to access correctional facilities to review discovery and prepare a defense with their clients. The delay in the criminal trial has raised constitutional issues of due process and fundamental fairness that must be resolved with the highest priority. The conflict with the criminal trial and the trial date in previously set in this case was unfortunately unavoidable.

The Court requests the Parties to confer with each other and to inform the Court of a preferable time to hold a status conference on the week of January 31, 2022. This status conference

will be held over telephone. Currently, the next available trial dates are the week beginning May 31, 2022 or July 5, 2022.

It is so **ORDERED**.

January 21, 2022
Alexandria, Virginia



Liam O'Grady
United States District Judge