

IN THE UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT  
FOR THE SOUTHERN DISTRICT OF OHIO

FILED  
RICHARD W. NAGEL  
CLERK OF COURT

2021 MAY -7 PM 2:02

U.S. DISTRICT COURT  
SOUTHERN DIST. OHIO  
EAST. DIV. COLUMBUS

In Re:

**FURTHER ORDER REGARDING  
COURT OPERATIONS UNDER THE  
ONGOING EXIGENT CIRCUMSTANCES  
CREATED BY COVID-19**

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**GENERAL ORDER NO. 21-11**

In accordance with the April 16, 2021, recommendation of the Court's Ad Hoc Committee on Gating Criteria, and the revised Reconstitution Plan and revised Resumption of Jury Trials Plan, all as approved by the Court at a Judges' meeting on April 26, 2021, IT IS HEREBY ORDERED:

1. Effective Monday, May 3, 2021, the federal courthouses in Cincinnati, Columbus, and Dayton shall be open for all proceedings, including in-court proceedings.
2. All jury trials, whether criminal or civil, shall be held in courtrooms outfitted with plexiglass shielding.
3. For all other non-jury matters which the presiding judge determines should be conducted in open court, the judge shall attempt to schedule such proceeding in a plexiglass-shielded courtroom, but has discretion to proceed in a non-plexiglass-shielded courtroom if no plexiglass-shielded courtroom is available and the proceeding cannot be delayed until a plexiglass-shielded courtroom becomes available. If the judge proceeds in the non-plexiglass-shielded courtroom, social distancing as set forth in the Reconstitution Plan shall be observed.
4. All judges are encouraged, to the maximum extent feasible, to continue to conduct proceedings by videoconferencing. This particularly applies to preliminary proceedings in criminal cases conducted by Magistrate Judges so as to minimize traffic in the courthouses, consistent with public health standards, and to

reduce demand on the strained resources of the United States Marshal's Service.

This General Order does not change any of the preventive measures specified in the revised Reconstitution Plan including, without limitation:

- a. Screening all visitors to the courthouses for indications of COVID-19 infection;
- b. Requiring all Court personnel and visitors to wear face masks in specified locations in the courthouses;
- c. Requiring all persons in the courthouses to maintain a physical distance of at least six feet from other persons ("social distancing"); and
- d. Responding to any reported COVID-19 infection in one of the courthouses according to the detailed protocol provided in the revised Reconstitution Plan.

This Order shall remain in full force and effect until further notice, and supersedes all other General Orders which are inconsistent with the terms herein.

**IT IS SO ORDERED.**

  
ALGENON L. MARBLEY  
CHIEF UNITED STATES DISTRICT JUDGE

**DATED: May 7, 2021**