

IN THE UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT  
FOR THE DISTRICT OF NEBRASKA

IN RE: EXTENSION OF  
CONTINUANCES DUE TO NOVEL  
CORONAVIRUS AND COVID-19  
DISEASE.

GENERAL ORDER NO. 2020-09

The Court has been carefully monitoring the ongoing local and national emergency occasioned by the worldwide COVID-19 pandemic. The Court is hopeful that it will soon be able to return to the courtroom for hearings and trials.

But at present, Nebraska leads the nation in percentage growth in new confirmed cases of COVID-19. That growth has been primarily driven by outbreaks in communities that are home to large meatpacking operations—but the Court's juries are drawn in part from those communities. And in Douglas and Lancaster Counties—home to the district's courthouses—the trajectories of both confirmed cases and positive tests as a percentage of total tests are trending upwards.

In sum, neither the district as a whole nor the communities in which the district's courthouses are located presently meet the gating criteria for even a phased resumption of operations. But the Court, in consultation with public health officials, is fully advised of the data and projections for the immediate future. Accordingly,

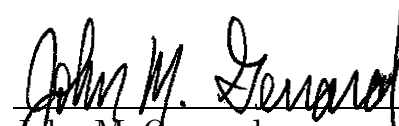
IT IS ORDERED:

1. The continuances implemented by [General Order 2020-04](#) of civil and criminal matters scheduled for a jury trial are extended to include all proceedings set to begin on or before July 3, 2020.
2. The continuance implemented by [General Order 2020-04](#) of grand jury proceedings is extended to June 12, 2020.

3. The continuances implemented by [General Order 2020-05](#) of other in-court proceedings are extended to include all proceedings set to begin before June 8, 2020.
4. For the reasons stated in [General Order 2020-04](#) and [General Order 2020-05](#), the delays in progression of criminal cases occasioned by the continuances implemented by this General Order are excluded under the Speedy Trial Act pursuant to [18 U.S.C. § 3161\(h\)\(7\)\(A\) & \(B\)\(iii\)](#). The failure of any defendant to object to this General Order will be deemed a waiver of any right to later claim the time should not have been excluded under the Speedy Trial Act.
5. Due to the unavailability of a grand jury in this District, the 30-day time period for filing an indictment or information is tolled as to any defendant during the time period of the continuances occasioned by [General Order 2020-04](#), [General Order 2020-06](#), [General Order 2020-08](#), and this General Order, pursuant to [18 U.S.C. § 3161\(b\)](#).
6. Case-by-case exceptions to the continuances extended by this General Order may be ordered for non-jury proceedings at the discretion of the Court, upon motion from the parties or on the Court's own motion after consultation with counsel. The provisions of [General Order 2020-03](#) shall remain in effect for such proceedings.

Dated this 14th day of May, 2020.

BY THE COURT:



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John M. Gerrard  
Chief United States District Judge