

**IN THE UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT  
FOR THE MIDDLE DISTRICT OF NORTH CAROLINA**

**IN RE:** )  
**RESTRICTIONS ON VISITORS** )      **STANDING ORDER 12**  
**TO COURTHOUSES** )      **(SECOND AMENDED)**

**ATTENTION ALL ENTRANTS**

The United States District Court for the Middle District of North Carolina continues to monitor the outbreak of the novel coronavirus known as COVID-19, including directives and executive orders issued by the President of the United States and Governor of North Carolina, as well as guidance issued by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention and other public health authorities have advised taking precautions to reduce the possibility of exposure to the virus and slow the spread of the disease. In order to protect public health, and in order to reduce the size of public gatherings and reduce unnecessary travel, the United States District Court for the Middle District of North Carolina hereby issues the following order:

IT IS HEREBY ORDERED by the United States District Court for the Middle District of North Carolina that only those with, and interested in, official business are permitted to enter. For purposes of official business with the United States District Court, all litigants with a scheduled proceeding, counsel of record, investigators or employees of counsel, jurors, witnesses, the press, and members of the public interested in a particular proceeding may enter any U.S. Courthouse in the Middle District of North Carolina without prior permission from the Chief Judge. While all litigants are encouraged to file documents

electronically, members of the public are encouraged to file documents by mail or use the drop box at the entrance of the Greensboro courthouse between 9:00 a.m. and 3:00 p.m., Monday through Friday; individuals requiring urgent assistance from the Clerk's Office may visit the front counter between 9:00 a.m. and 3:00 p.m., Monday through Friday.

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that the following persons **shall not** enter any U.S. Courthouse, combined Courthouse/Federal Facility or U.S. Probation Office in the Middle District of North Carolina without prior permission from the Chief Judge or designee:

- Persons who have traveled outside of the United States within the last 14 days or to any area that has been declared in quarantine for COVID-19;
- Persons who have resided or had close contact with someone who has travelled outside the United States or been in an area declared in quarantine for COVID-19 within the last 14 days;
- Persons displaying any symptom of COVID-19, including fever (within the past 3 days), cough, or shortness of breath;
- Persons who have been diagnosed with, or in the past 14 days have had contact with, anyone who has been diagnosed with COVID-19 within the past 14 days; and
- Persons who have been asked to self-quarantine for COVID-19 by any doctor, hospital, or health agency.

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that all entrants to any Courthouse, combined Courthouse/Federal Facility, or U.S. Probation Office are required to wear an appropriate face mask or cloth face covering in all public spaces, including courtrooms and security checkpoints. Counsel, parties, and participants shall wear face masks or coverings during

court proceedings unless otherwise directed by the court. A face mask or cloth face covering will be available for any criminal defendant, juror or court participant who does not have one.

**IT IS FURTHER ORDERED** that the United States Marshal, his Deputies, and the Court Security Officers shall deny entry to anyone attempting to enter in violation of this Order.

**IT IS FURTHER ORDERED** that anyone scheduled or required to appear at a U.S. Courthouse or U.S. Probation Office in the Middle District of North Carolina or otherwise desire access but is unable to appear because of the restrictions in this Order should proceed as follows:

- If you are represented by an attorney, please contact your attorney;
- If you are an attorney and you are scheduled to appear in court before a Judge, please contact that chambers directly;
- If you are scheduled to meet with a Probation Officer, please contact the Probation Office at (336) 358-4200;
- If you are a juror, please contact the Jury Coordinator at (336) 332-6040;
- For Bankruptcy Court matters, please contact the Clerk's Office in Greensboro at (336) 358-4000 or in Winston-Salem at (336) 397-7785;
- For Section 341 Meetings of Creditors, please contact the U.S. Bankruptcy Administrator at (336) 358-4170; and
- For all other District Court matters, please contact the Clerk's Office at (336) 332-

6000.

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that anyone scheduled or required to meet with any other tenant of the U.S. Courthouse or U.S. Probation Office in the Middle District of North Carolina who is unable to do so because of the restrictions in this Order should contact the tenant's agency (contact numbers may be posted separately from this Order).

These restrictions will remain in place temporarily until it is determined to be safe to remove or modify them.

Persons who believe they may have been exposed to the COVID-19 virus should contact their healthcare provider immediately.

This Order shall be updated as further guidance is received.

This the 9<sup>th</sup> day of June, 2020.

/s/ Thomas D. Schroeder  
Thomas D. Schroeder, Chief Judge  
United States District Court