

MAR 19 2020

SEAN F. McAVOY, CLERK  
DEPUTY  
SPOKANE, WASHINGTON

UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT  
EASTERN DISTRICT OF WASHINGTON

In Re

COURT OPERATIONS UNDER THE  
EXIGENT CIRCUMSTANCES  
CREATED BY THE CORONAVIRUS  
(COVID-19)

GENERAL ORDER NO. 20-101-2

This General Order is issued in response to the evolving public health crisis caused by the outbreak of the Coronavirus Disease (COVID-19) and the recently-declared national emergency. The Court finds it necessary in the interest of public safety and justice to take proactive measures to slow the spread of the virus and to ensure the safety of litigants, counsel, Court staff, grand jurors, petit jurors, witnesses, and the communities of this District.

Accordingly, **IT IS HEREBY ORDERED** that, effective Friday, March 20, 2020:

1. The fifth, seventh, eighth and ninth floors of the United States Courthouse in Spokane, Washington, and the courthouse floors of the United States Courthouse in Richland, Washington, and the United

1 States Courthouse in Yakima, Washington, will be closed to the public  
2 except as stated below. This temporary closure will last through April  
3 14, 2020, and may be continued based on public health guidance.

4 2. Excepted from this General Order are essential Magistrate Judge  
5 hearings and functions which will be evaluated on a case-by case  
6 basis at the discretion of the presiding Magistrate Judge after  
7 consultation with counsel. Physical access to proceedings scheduled  
8 under this exception are limited to persons required to attend as  
9 directed by the Magistrate Judge presiding over that hearing, which  
10 may include parties, counsel, witnesses, or victims.

11 3. The Clerk's Office in each of the three court locations will be closed  
12 to the public. Staff will be available by telephone, mail will be  
13 received and new filings will be processed. Those wishing to make  
14 in-person filings or payments are directed to leave such materials at  
15 established drop off points near the entrance of the courthouses. The  
16 public is encouraged to use online Court resources and contact the  
17 Court/Clerk's Office by telephone. Electronic filings may still be  
18 made through the CM/ECF system.

19 4. The Probation and Pretrial Office in each of the three court locations  
20 will be closed to the public. Staff will be available by telephone and  
drug testing will continue as directed by U.S. Probation and Pretrial.

1 This Order amends General Order 20-101-1 of this Court, only  
2 to effectuate the closure of the courthouses to the public in the Eastern District  
3 of Washington.

4 The District Court Executive is directed to post this General Order to the  
5 Court's website and distribute a copy to each attorney registered in the CM/ECF  
6 system and each pro se litigant with a case pending before this Court.

7 **DATED** this 19th day of March 2020.

8  
9 Thomas O. Rice  
Chief United States District Judge

10 Rosanna Malouf Peterson

11 Rosanna Malouf Peterson  
12 United States District Judge

10 Stanley A. Bastain

11 Stanley A. Bastain  
12 United States District Judge

13 Salvador Mendoza, Jr.

14 Salvador Mendoza, Jr.  
15 United States District Judge

13 Justin L. Quackenbush

14 Justin L. Quackenbush  
15 Senior United States District Judge

16 Wm. Fremming Nielsen

17 Wm. Fremming Nielsen  
18 Senior United States District Judge

16 Fred Van Sickle

17 Fred Van Sickle  
18 Senior United States District Judge

19 Robert H. Whaley

20 Robert H. Whaley  
Senior United States District Judge

19 Edward F. Shea

20 Edward F. Shea  
Senior United States District Judge

Lonny R. Suko

Lonny R. Suko  
Senior United States District Judge