

Jun 26, 2020

SEAN F. McAVOY, CLERK

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6 UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT  
EASTERN DISTRICT OF WASHINGTON

7 In Re

8 IMPLEMENTATION OF THE CARES  
9 ACT, H.R. 748, AS AUTHORIZED  
10 BY THE JUDICIAL CONFERENCE  
OF THE UNITED STATES

GENERAL ORDER NO. 20-101-3  
EXTENDED

11 WHEREAS Congress passed legislation authorizing the use of video and  
12 telephone conferencing, under certain circumstances and with the consent of the  
13 defendant, or the juvenile, after consultation with counsel, for various criminal and  
14 delinquency case events during the course of the COVID-19 emergency. CARES  
15 Act, Pub. L. No. 116-136 (H.R. 748) (eff. March 27, 2020).

16 WHEREAS, on March 29, 2020, the Judicial Conference of the United States  
17 made the appropriate findings for implementation of the CARES Act and found that  
18 emergency conditions due to the national emergency declared by the President have  
19 affected and will materially affect the functioning of the federal courts generally.  
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1           WHEREAS, on March 30, 2020, pursuant to the authority delegated to me  
2 by the CARES Act, as Chief Judge for the United States District Court for the  
3 Eastern District of Washington, I *sua sponte* **entered General Order 20-101-3,**  
4 **Implementation of the CARES Act,** which, effectuated, inter alia, the use of video  
5 conferencing, or telephone conferencing if video conferencing is not reasonably  
6 available, for certain criminal proceedings and events.

7           According to the CARES Act, the chief judge must “review the extension of  
8 authority not less frequently than once every 90 days until the earlier of—(i) the  
9 date on which the chief judge (or other judge or justice) determines the authorization  
10 is no longer warranted; or (ii) the date on which the emergency authority is  
11 terminated under paragraph (5).” § 15002(b)(3)(B).

12           I have conducted such review and find that an extension is warranted.  
13 **ACCORDINGLY, IT IS HEREBY ORDERED** that General Order 20-101-3 is  
14 **EXTENDED** for another 90 days from today.

- 15           1. Pursuant to § 15002(b)(3) of the CARES Act, this extended authorization  
16 will remain in effect for 90 days unless terminated earlier. If emergency  
17 conditions continue to exist 90 days from the entry of this order, this  
18 authorization will be reviewed and a determination made whether to  
19 extend it further.

1 2. Notwithstanding the foregoing, pursuant to the provisions of the CARES  
2 Act, this authority shall terminate on the last day of the “covered  
3 emergency period” (as defined at § 15002(a)) or the date on which the  
4 Judicial Conference of the United States finds that emergency conditions  
5 due to the national emergency declared by the President under the  
6 National Emergencies Act with respect to the COVID-19 virus outbreak  
7 no longer materially affect the functioning of either the Federal courts  
8 generally or the courts within this district.

9 The District Court Executive is directed to post this **Extended General**  
10 **Order** to the Court’s website and distribute a copy to each attorney registered in  
11 the CM/ECF system.

12 **DATED** this 26th day of June 2020.



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A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Thomas O. Rice".

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THOMAS O. RICE  
Chief United States District Judge