

**IN THE UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT  
FOR THE EASTERN DISTRICT OF PENNSYLVANIA**

<b>IN RE:</b>	:	
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<b>THIRTEENTH EXTENSION OF ADJUSTMENTS TO COURT OPERATIONS – PHASE THREE CHANGES</b>	:	<b>STANDING ORDER</b>
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	:	

The Court having moved to Phase Three of the reopening process outlined in its COVID-19 Reopening Guidelines effective June 14, 2021, the Standing Orders and Guidelines currently in effect in this district are amended as follows:

1. Arbitration hearings pursuant to Local Civil Rule 53.2 may resume in person in cases in which the parties do not consent to proceed by videoconference. The Standing Orders issued on October 5, 2020, authorizing arbitration hearings to be conducted remotely by videoconference remain in effect, and arbitration hearings may proceed by videoconference with the parties' consent.

2. Settlement conferences and mediations may be conducted in person, at the discretion of the presiding judge.

3. The public counters in the Clerk's Office in the James A. Byrne U.S. Courthouse in Philadelphia and in the Edward N. Cahn U.S. Courthouse in Allentown will reopen with limited hours. Effective June 28, 2021, the public counters will be open from 10:00 a.m. until 2:00 p.m., Monday through Friday. Although paper filings and payments will be accepted in person during these hours, filers are strongly encouraged to file electronically via the Case Management/Electronic Case Files (CM/ECF) system and to email documents that cannot be filed electronically, in PDF format, to [PAED\\_DOCUMENTS@PAED.USCOURTS.GOV](mailto:PAED_DOCUMENTS@PAED.USCOURTS.GOV). Clerk's Office personnel will also be available by telephone from 8:30 a.m. until 5:00 p.m., Monday

through Friday. A directory of Clerk's Office employees is available on the Court's website: <https://www.paed.uscourts.gov/documents2/directory>.

4. Filers with an emergency matter outside normal office hours (8:30 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.) should follow the procedures on the Court's website: <https://www.paed.uscourts.gov/court-info/emergency-contact-info>. Filers with an emergency matter during normal office hours should contact the Clerk's Office as outlined in Paragraph 3 above.

5. Filers are reminded that expanded electronic filing remains in effect for all registered users of the CM/ECF system. See [https://www.paed.uscourts.gov/documents/notices/not\\_ECF%20guides.pdf](https://www.paed.uscourts.gov/documents/notices/not_ECF%20guides.pdf). The restrictions set forth in Local Civil Rule 5.1.2, subsection 2(b), stating that initial papers in civil cases cannot be electronically filed by counsel shall remain suspended until further notice.

6. Additional Standing Orders expanding Court operations shall be entered as warranted.

IT IS SO ORDERED.

/s/ Juan R. Sánchez  
Juan R. Sánchez  
Chief Judge

Date: June 25, 2021