

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

IN RE:	:	
	:	
VIDEO TELECONFERENCING AND	:	STANDING ORDER
TELEPHONE CONFERENCING FOR	:	
CRIMINAL PROCEEDINGS UNDER	:	
THE CARES ACT	:	

Legislation has been enacted authorizing the use of video teleconferencing and telephone conferencing, under certain circumstances and with the consent of the defendant, for various criminal case events during the course of the COVID-19 emergency. *See* Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security (CARES) Act, Pub. L. No. 116-136, § 15002, 134 Stat. 281, 527-30 (2020). The Judicial Conference of the United States has also found, pursuant to the CARES Act, that emergency conditions due to the national emergency declared by the President with respect to COVID-19 have materially affected and will materially affect the functioning of the federal courts generally. Emergency conditions also continue to materially affect the functioning of this district, as described in the Standing Orders currently in effect due to the COVID-19 outbreak in this district.

As Chief Judge, and pursuant to Section 15002(b)(1) of the CARES Act, I hereby authorize the use of video teleconferencing, or telephone conferencing if video teleconferencing is not reasonably available, with the consent of the defendant or juvenile after consultation with counsel, for the following events:

- Detention hearings under section 3142 of title 18, United States Code;
- Initial appearances under Rule 5 of the Federal Rules of Criminal Procedure;
- Preliminary hearings under Rule 5.1 of the Federal Rules of Criminal Procedure;
- Waivers of indictment under Rule 7(b) of the Federal Rules of Criminal Procedure;

- Arraignments under Rule 10 of the Federal Rules of Criminal Procedure;
- Probation and supervised release revocation proceedings under Rule 32.1 of the Federal Rules of Criminal Procedure;
- Pretrial release revocation proceedings under section 3148 of title 18, United States Code;
- Appearances under Rule 40 of the Federal Rules of Criminal Procedure;
- Misdemeanor pleas and sentencings as described in Rule 43(b)(2) of the Federal Rules of Criminal Procedure;
- Proceedings under chapter 403 of title 18, United States Code (commonly known as the Federal Juvenile Delinquency Act), except for contested transfer hearings and juvenile delinquency adjudication or trial proceedings.

Pursuant to Section 15002(b)(2), I further specifically find that felony pleas under Rule 11 of the Federal Rules of Criminal Procedure and felony sentencings under Rule 32 of the Federal Rules of Criminal Procedure cannot be conducted in person in this district without seriously jeopardizing public health and safety. As a result, if a judge in an individual case finds, for specific reasons, that a felony plea or sentencing in that case cannot be further delayed without serious harm to the interests of justice, the judge may, with the consent of the defendant after consultation with counsel, use video conferencing, or telephone conferencing if video conferencing is not reasonably available, for the felony plea or sentencing in that case. Judges may also use this authority for equivalent events in juvenile cases as described in Section 15002(b)(2)(B).

Pursuant to Section 15002(b)(3) of the legislation, this authorization will remain in effect for 90 days from the date of this order unless terminated earlier. If emergency conditions continue

to exist 90 days from the date of this order, I will review this authorization and determine whether to extend it.

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

Date: March 30, 2020