

**UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT  
EASTERN DISTRICT OF MISSOURI**

IN RE: )  
COURTHOUSE OPERATIONS )  
DUE TO COVID-19 RESPONSE )

**ORDER**

WHEREAS this Court continues to evaluate its response to the spread of the COVID-19 virus, and recognizes the need to assist in the preservation of public safety and health while effectively administering justice during this period of national emergency;

NOW THEREFORE, the Court hereby adopts the following Order:

This Court's prior Orders regarding case operations dated [March 17, 2020](#) and [March 18, 2020](#) remain in effect. This Court's prior Order dated [March 13, 2020](#) restricting entry to persons who may have been exposed to, or are showing symptoms of, COVID-19 remains in effect, and is further amended as follows until further Order of this Court:

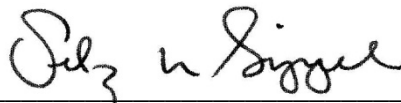
1. Public entry to all federal courthouses in the Eastern District shall be restricted to the main lobby on the first floor, except as specified in this Order so as to allow the Courts and agencies within these courthouses to meet their constitutional duties and handle emergencies related to public safety, public health and welfare, and individual liberty;

2. All Courts and agencies within the courthouses of this district are open by appointment only, except as follows:

- a. Persons attending a scheduled proceeding may enter beyond the main lobby of the courthouses of this district;
- b. Other persons may enter with permission from a judge of this district or from the head or designee of any agency housed in the courthouses;

- c. A judge of this district or head or designee of any agency may enforce limits on the number of persons in any space within these courthouses consistent with restrictions on the number of people in a public space as posted by civil authorities (currently no more than 10 persons in a space, subject to enforcement by the judge or agency based on then-current guidance without further Order of this Court).
3. Each Court and agency shall furnish, in the main lobby of the courthouse, information and remote services to enable the public to access the services of that Court or agency in the manner directed by the Court or agency and as authorized by law. Such information may include but is not limited to drop boxes for paper filing; telephone and e-mail contact information during business hours and non-business hours; and, web address information; and
4. A current list of the information referenced in subsection 4 is attached to this Order and may be amended by each agency without further Order of this Court. This list shall be posted and made available to the public in the main lobby of the courthouses within this district.

**SO ORDERED** this 23rd day of March, 2020.



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Rodney W. Sippel  
Chief United States District Judge