UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT DISTRICT OF NEW HAMPSHIRE

COURT OPERATIONS UNDER THE EXIGENT CIRCUMSTANCES CREATED BY COVID-19

ADM-1 ORDER 22-7

ORDER

The World Health Organization and the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) continue to declare COVID-19 to be a global pandemic. The CDC and other health authorities also continue to provide guidance on how to reduce the possibility of exposure to COVID-19 and to slow the spread of the disease. Lastly, the court continues to find that the emergency conditions caused by COVID-19 continue to exist. However, due to the recent reduction in community transmission levels in New Hampshire, as well as improvements in the prevention and treatment of COVID-19, the court has reviewed its current protocols and issues the following order:

- 1. The following orders are vacated:
 - (a) ADM-1, 20-26, Order Clarifying Speedy Trial Act Findings in Response to Exigent Circumstances Created by COVID-19;
 - (b) ADM-1, 20-27, Order Re: Protocol Governing In-Court Proceedings Due to Exigent Circumstances Created by COVID-19;
 - (c) ADM 1, 21-10, Protocol Mandating Detention Facilities to Screen Detainees Before Transporting to the Rudman Courthouse;
 - (d) ADM 1, 21-14, Order on Civil Jury Trials and Mediations; and
 - (e) ADM 1, 21-18 Order on Public Access to Rudman Courthouse and District Court Clerk's Office.
- 2. The remainder of this order supersedes ADM-1, 20-25, Court Operations Under the Exigent Circumstances Created by COVID-19, and takes effect immediately.
- 3. The presiding judge has the discretion to schedule a criminal hearing to occur by teleconference/videoconference with defendant's consent, or by an in-court hearing at the Rudman Courthouse as safety and health considerations allow.
- 4. Until further notice, criminal complaints, applications for search warrants, and applications for other warrants shall be submitted electronically pursuant to Fed. R. Crim. P. 4.1.
- 5. The presiding judge has the discretion to schedule a civil hearing to occur by teleconference/videoconference or by an in-court hearing at the Rudman Courthouse as safety and health considerations allow.

- 6. The presiding judge has the discretion to require case participants and persons within the courtroom to wear a mask that covers their noses and mouths. The court will provide a mask for those who do not have their own. A presiding judge who requires masking may also permit removal of masks by case participants who obtain a negative result from a rapid test administered by the court.
- 7. The presiding judge has the discretion to require case participants and persons within the courtroom to maintain a six-foot distance between themselves and others.

SO ORDERED.

Date: March 31, 2022

Landya B. McCafferty

Chief Judge