

UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT
WESTERN DISTRICT OF OKLAHOMA

FILED

APR 03 2020

IN RE: SUSPENSION OF GRAND)
JURY SESSIONS AND JURY TRIALS)
IN MAY 2020)

G.O. 20-10

CARMELITA REEDER SHINN, CLERK
U.S. DIST. COURT, WESTERN DIST. OKLA.
BY: AS DEPUTY

ORDER

In light of current efforts to slow the transmission of the coronavirus known as COVID-19, it is hereby ORDERED:

1. Grand jury sessions on May 5, 2020 and May 19, 2020 are cancelled to reduce the possibility of exposure of COVID-19 to grand jurors, Court staff, witnesses, and counsel.

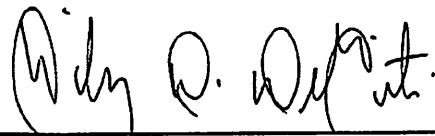
2. Civil and criminal jury trials on the May 2020 docket are continued, to be reset by the presiding judge. The presiding judge will also address trial-related deadlines. With respect to criminal cases in particular, the Court finds:

a. As of today's date, the Oklahoma State Department of Health has identified 988 positive cases of COVID-19 and 38 deaths related to the disease. The majority of the positive cases are in the Western District of Oklahoma;

b. The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) has recommended against gatherings of more than 10 people, and jury qualification necessitates summoning more than 200 people who will be in close quarters during qualification and selection;

- c. The Governor of the State of Oklahoma has issued an Executive Order directing that persons over the age of 65 or with underlying health conditions stay home, which will impact the Court's ability to obtain a fair cross-section of the public for jury service; and
- d. The Governor's Executive Order may also affect the availability of counsel, witnesses, and court staff.
- e. Therefore, the period of delay resulting from continuances implemented as a result of this Order will be excluded under the Speedy Trial Act, as the Court specifically finds that the ends of justice served by ordering continuances outweigh the best interests of the public and each defendant to a speedy trial. *See* 18 U.S.C. § 3161(h)(7)(A).

ENTERED FOR THE COURT this 3rd day of April, 2020.



TIMOTHY D. DeGIUSTI
Chief United States District Judge