

**IN THE UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT
FOR THE DISTRICT OF KANSAS**

IN RE NOVEL CORONAVIRUS
AND COVID-19 DISEASE

)
)
)
)

ADMINISTRATIVE ORDER 2020-2

The United States District Court for the District of Kansas is closely monitoring the evolving circumstances presented by the outbreak of the novel coronavirus known as COVID-19. Guidance from public health officials suggest that one of the most effective ways to protect against the spread of this virus is to limit exposure, particularly to persons at higher risk of developing serious COVID-19 illness.

With the exception of certain criminal matters, conditions in the District of Kansas do not warrant curtailing court operations at this time. Elevated caution is warranted. Accordingly, in order to protect parties, practitioners, witnesses, court staff, jurors, and the many others who regularly visit the courthouses,

IT IS ORDERED that persons who have an elevated risk of transmitting the novel coronavirus that causes COVID-19 shall not enter any United States District of Kansas Courthouse or Probation Office without prior permission from the Chief Judge. Those persons include anyone who:

- a. Has traveled from China; South Korea; Japan; Italy; Iran; New Rochelle, New York; or Washington State within the last 14 days, or lives or has close contact with someone who;
- b. Has been asked to self-quarantine by any health care provider or public official;
- c. Has been diagnosed with, or has had contact with, anyone who has been diagnosed with COVID-19; or
- d. Is presently exhibiting the symptoms of an infectious respiratory illness, which include fever, cough, or shortness of breath.

Any attorney or party shall promptly notify opposing counsel and the Court if they reasonably suspect that a participant in any scheduled hearing, trial, conference, deposition, or other proceeding may come within any of the categories listed above. To the extent possible, counsel shall affirmatively inquire of their clients and witnesses whether they come within any of those categories.

No person who falls within any of those categories shall attend any hearing, trial, conference, deposition, or other proceeding without prior authorization from the Court. Any attorney or party shall notify the Court and opposing counsel if any proceedings relating to the litigation of cases pending before the Court would require


travel or other actions contrary to guidance set forth by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention or other foreign or domestic public health officials.

If you are scheduled or required to appear at a United States District of Kansas Courthouse or Probation Office or the Federal Building in Topeka and are unable to appear because of the restrictions in this Order, you are directed to proceed as follows:

- If you are represented by an attorney, please contact your attorney;
- If you are an attorney and you are scheduled to appear in court before a judge, please contact that chambers directly;
- For other District Court matters, please contact the Clerk's Office at (913) 735-2200 in Kansas City; (785) 338-5400 for Topeka; and (316) 315-4200 for Wichita.
- If you are scheduled to meet with a Pretrial Services or Probation Officer, please contact the Probation Office at (913) 735-2400 for Kansas City; (785) 338-5600 for Topeka; and (316) 315-4400 for Wichita.
- If you are a juror, please contact the Jury Department at (913) 735-2218 for Kansas City; (785) 338-5418 for Topeka; and (316) 315-4201 for Wichita.
- For Bankruptcy Court matters, please contact the Bankruptcy Clerk's Office at (913) 735-2110 for Kansas City; (785) 338-5910 for Topeka; and (316) 315-4110 for Wichita.
- For Section 341 Meetings of Creditors, please contact the U.S. Trustee's Office at (316) 269-6637.
- For U.S. Coast Guard matters, please contact the U.S. Coast Guard Office at (785) 339-3600.

IT IS ORDERED that these restrictions shall remain in effect until further notice from the Court.

Dated this 13 th day of March 2020.



JULIE A. ROBINSON, CHIEF JUDGE
UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT