

IN THE UNITED STATES DISTRICT AND BANKRUPTCY COURT
FOR THE DISTRICT OF IDAHO

**In Re: CONTINUED COURT
OPERATIONS IN 2021**

GENERAL ORDER NO. 384

On May 11, 2020, the Court issued General Order No. 367 in response to Idaho Governor Brad Little's staged approach for reopening Idaho during the COVID-19 pandemic. General Order No. 367 outlined Court operations during that reopening process. The State of Idaho and the Court advanced through those reopening stages. However, on November 14, 2020, Governor Little and the Idaho Department of Health and Welfare issued a Stay Healthy Order returning the State of Idaho to Stage II of the reopening plan, albeit a somewhat modified Stage II. In response to the Stay Healthy Order, the Court issued General Order No. 376 suspending jury trials and limiting court hearings through December 31, 2020. Idaho remains in Stage II. In order to continue complying with the Stay Healthy Order and Stage II guidelines, the Court issues the following Order. Accordingly,

IT IS HEREBY ORDERED that jury trials in the District of Idaho shall be suspended through January 31, 2021. Trials will be vacated and reset by individual order in each case. For criminal trials, the Court finds that due to the current inability to obtain an adequate spectrum of jurors and the effect of the COVID-19 pandemic on the availability of witnesses, counsel, and Court staff to be present in the courtroom, the time

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period of the continuances implemented by this General Order will be excluded under the Speedy Trial Act because the ends of justice served by ordering the continuances outweigh the best interests of the public and any defendant's right to a speedy trial, pursuant to 18 U.S.C. §3161(h)(7)(A). A presiding judge may conduct a jury trial in a specific case before January 31, 2021 if the judge determines there are special circumstances for doing so.

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that all in-person hearings will be limited to 10 persons or less in the courtroom. Most hearings will be conducted virtually. The determination of which hearings will be conducted in-person and which hearings will be conducted virtually will be left to the presiding judge.

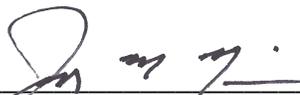
IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that that the Court will determine whether Grand Jury proceedings will occur in January 2021 as the date for those proceedings approaches.

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that all provisions of General Order No. 376 remain in effect except as otherwise noted herein.

DATED this 22nd day of December 2020.



David C. Nye
Chief Judge
U.S. District Court



Joseph M. Meier
Chief Judge
U.S. Bankruptcy Court