

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

IN RE: \*  
COVID-19 PANDEMIC PROCEDURES \* MISC. NO. 20-146  
\*

\*\*\*\*\*

**ORDER**

WHEREAS, the Governor of the State of Maryland has declared a state of emergency in response to the spread of the novel coronavirus known as COVID-19; and

WHEREAS, the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention and other public health authorities have advised taking precautions to reduce the possibility of exposure to the virus and slow the spread of the disease; and

WHEREAS, only *emergency* matters relating to public safety, public health and welfare, and individual liberty are being heard by the Court, and those matters are few in number; and

WHEREAS, consolidating court operations to three days a week will conserve scarce court and court-related agency resources, reduce the number of staff required to enter courthouses in this District, and allow for more effective, focused, and efficient health screening measures, it is hereby

ORDERED by the United States District Court for the District of Maryland that, effective immediately, all in-court proceedings in the District of Maryland shall be heard on Mondays, Wednesdays, or Fridays, unless otherwise ordered by a presiding judge in a particular case after the date of this Order; and it is further

ORDERED that the Court shall remain sufficiently staffed to retain the capacity to hear emergency proceedings on Tuesdays or Thursdays on short notice, when unique circumstances make that necessary and appropriate; and it is further

ORDERED that electronic filing through CM/ECF will remain available for all cases, and self-represented litigants may continue to deposit and date-stamp papers in both the Northern Division and Southern Division drop boxes between 9:00 a.m. and 4:00 p.m., Monday through Friday; and it is further

ORDERED that this Order shall be vacated or amended as circumstances warrant.

Date: March 31, 2020

/s/ JAMES K. BREDAR  
James K. Bredar, Chief Judge  
United States District Court