

CRIMINAL DISTRICT COURT FOR THE PARISH OF ORLEANS
STATE OF LOUISIANA

ORDER

Acting in accordance with Louisiana Const. Art. V, Sect. 1; pursuant to La. R.S. 1:55 due to the COVID-19 emergency as detailed in Louisiana State Governor John Bel Edwards's Executive Department Proclamation Number 25 JBE 2020 – Public Health Emergency – COVID-19, 27 JBE 2020, 30 JBE 2020, 33 JBE 2020 and 41 JBE 2020, the City of New Orleans Mayor LaToya Cantrelle's Mayoral Proclamation of a State of Emergency Due to COVID-19, the Louisiana Supreme Court Chief Justice Bernette J. Johnson's letter dated March 12, 2020 to all Chief Judges and Criminal District Court's Deputy Chief Judge Robin D. Pittman's letter dated March 13, 2020 in accordance with the inherent powers of this court, the Chief Judge, on behalf of the Judges of the Orleans Parish Criminal District Court,

HEREBY ORDERS THAT:

The previous order of this court dated April 9, 2020 and signed on behalf of the Court En Banc by Chief Judge Karen K. Herman, be extended to until further notice;

All jury trials are suspended until further notice;

All juror service has been suspended until further notice and

All attorneys, defendants and witnesses with scheduled notices to appear from should refer to docket master on the Sheriff's website at www.opcso.org for their new court date.

All first appearances will continue to be held via audio and/or video conferencing;

For all other Magistrate Court matters, defendants will be notified and/or subpoenaed to appear for dates upon the court's reopening.

Weekend Warrior has been suspended until further notice.

The Court, in its Continuity of Operations Plan (COOP) *En Banc* Order, has previously ordered the immediate release of all persons detained in the Sheriff's custody for violations of the following:

- a. Arrests for Failure to Appear on Probation Status,
 - b. Misdemeanor Pre-Trials,
 - c. Contempt of Court, and
 - d. Defendants remanded for positive drug tests with a bond in effect,
- with the exclusion of violations related to domestic violence and weapons charges.

If the conditions indicate that the Court needs to adjust the above policy, notice will be posted to the Court's website (www.criminalcourt.org), the Louisiana Supreme Court website (www.lasc.org) and in the local media.

New Orleans, Louisiana this 23rd day of April, 2020.

Acting on behalf of the Court En Banc


KAREN K HERMAN, CHIEF JUDGE