

UNITED STATES BANKRUPTCY COURT

CENTRAL DISTRICT OF ILLINOIS

**GENERAL ORDER REGARDING COVID-19 PUBLIC EMERGENCY AND  
CONTINUED BANKRUPTCY COURT OPERATIONS**

Effective July 17, 2020

WHEREAS the Governor of the State of Illinois has declared a public health emergency in response to the spread of COVID-19 and has subsequently established a five-phased plan to reopen the State, the Center for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) and other public health authorities have advised public and private entities to take precautions to reduce the spread of the virus and set forth measures to avoid exposure. Since March 19, 2020, the federal courts in the Central District of Illinois have been operating on a limited basis under a series of orders entered by the District Court. On July 17, 2020, the District Court entered its Fifth Amended General Order 20-01 reopening the courthouses in the Central District of Illinois at 50 percent capacity.

IT IS HEREBY ORDERED that, notwithstanding the District Court's Fifth Amended General Order 20-01, physical public access to the Bankruptcy Clerk's Office will remain limited at this time. Bankruptcy Clerk's Office staff continues to work, however, and documents filed through the Court's ECF system will be processed normally and without delay. Staff is available to provide assistance telephonically at the numbers listed on the Bankruptcy Court website.

Filers who do not have access to the Court's electronic filing system are encouraged to submit their filings through the mail. Documents and filing fees should be mailed to the appropriate divisional office at one of the addresses listed on the Bankruptcy Court website. Additionally, drop boxes will be located inside the doors of the courthouses and documents may be dropped off between 8 a.m. and 5 p.m. at those locations. When dropping documents off at a drop box, please make sure to do the following:

1. Place all documents and filing fees in a sealed envelope clearly addressed to the Bankruptcy Court. The District Court and Bankruptcy Court will be sharing drop boxes, so clearly addressing envelopes intended for delivery to the Bankruptcy Court will avoid confusion. Do not drop loose papers or checks into the drop box.
2. If a filing fee is due with your documents, include the fee in the form of a money order or cashier's check payable to the Clerk of the U.S. Bankruptcy Court. Do not include cash or a personal check with your filing.
3. Regardless of what information is included on the documents to be filed, please include your name, mailing address, phone number, and email address with the filing. This will allow us to contact you if further information is needed.

Hearings before the Bankruptcy Court will continue to be held by telephone or video conference in the discretion of the sitting judge.

This Order remains in effect until further order of court.

ENTERED: *July 17, 2020*

*Thomas L. Perkins*  
Thomas L. Perkins, Chief U.S. Bankruptcy Judge

*Mary P. Gorman*  
Mary P. Gorman, U.S. Bankruptcy Judge