## UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT EASTERN DISTRICT OF MISSOURI

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IN RE: COURT OPERATIONS RESTRICTIONS ON JURY TRIALS DUE TO COVID-19

## ORDER

WHEREAS the United States District Court for the Eastern District of Missouri recognizes the need to take continued measures and precautions in order to reduce the spread of the COVID-19 virus;

NOW THEREFORE, the Court hereby amends previous orders relating to jury trials as follows:

All civil and criminal jury trials scheduled to begin through July 5, 2020, are continued and shall be rescheduled by the presiding judge to a date on or after July 6, 2020.

In criminal cases, the Court finds that the time period of any continuance entered from the date of this Order through July 5, 2020, as a result of this Order shall be excluded under the Speedy Trial Act, <u>18 U.S.C. § 3161(h)(7)(A)</u>, as the Court finds that the ends of justice served by taking that action outweigh the interests of the parties and the public in a speedy trial, given the need to protect the health and safety of defendants, their counsel, prosecutors, court staff, and the public by reducing the number of in-person hearings to the fullest extent possible, and due to the inability of the Court to ensure that a fair cross-section of jurors is available during the specified time.

**SO ORDERED** this 7<sup>th</sup> day of May, 2020.

Rodney W. Sippel Chief United States District Judge