IN THE UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT FOR THE DISTRICT OF ALASKA

In the matter of

EXTENDED HOURS FOR COURT PROCEEDINGS EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2020

MISCELLANEOUS GENERAL ORDER 20-23

This Order is intended to supplement Miscellaneous General Order 20-20. Pursuant to the CARES Act and Miscellaneous General Order 20-20, certain criminal proceedings are encouraged to proceed by virtual appearance during the COVID-19 pandemic. However, in the District of Alaska, many criminal defendants are ordered detained pending trial in facilities throughout the state. These facilities have a limited number of video and telephone conferencing equipment and staff to facilitate virtual appearances. Moreover, there are many pre-trial detainees who are required to appear virtually before both the federal and state courts. As a result, scheduling virtual appearances for federal criminal defendants has, in some cases, proven difficult.

The Court is committed to ensuring criminal defendants' statutory and constitutional right to a speedy trial. To this end, the Court may schedule hearings outside of normal business hours, including evenings and weekends. These extended hours are intended to provide federal criminal defendants greater access to conferencing equipment and consequently, progress in their criminal proceedings. Although the Court will avoid holding hearings outside of normal business hours to the extent practicable, Attorneys should be prepared to appear at evening and weekend hearings if required. This Order shall remain in effect until further Order by the Court.

DATED this 29th day of June, 2020

/s/Timothy M. Burgess

Hon. Timothy M. Burgess Chief United States District Judge

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