

UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT  
for the  
District of Alaska

*In the Matter of*

ENCRYPTED ELECTRONIC MATERIALS  
PROVIDED TO THE UNITED STATES  
DISTRICT COURT, DISTRICT OF ALASKA

MISCELLANEOUS  
GENERAL ORDER  
NO. 20-02

IT IS HEREBY ORDERED THAT:

The proliferation of encryption technologies has resulted in the utilization of wide-ranging software programs designed to encrypt and de-encrypt electronic media. As those software programs are not always compatible with one another, this Court cannot reasonably be assured that it or those litigants appearing before it will possess the appropriate software necessary to view and review encrypted materials. As this Court must assure that it and those who appear before it have access to all discovery, documents, pleadings, and other electronic materials to which they are entitled, and in order to assure that such access may continue:

**IT IS HEREBY ORDERED** that all discovery, documents, pleadings, and other electronic materials contained on removable media which are filed with or presented to the court must not be encrypted; and

**IT IS FURTHER ORDERED** that any email messages sent to the Court, Clerk's Office, or the U.S. Probation and Pretrial Services Office, must not be encrypted, unless the sender obtained permission in advance from the intended recipient of the encrypted message.

**SO ORDERED.**

DATED at Anchorage, Alaska, this 21<sup>st</sup> day of January, 2020.

/s/ Timothy M. Burgess  
TIMOTHY M. BURGESS, Chief Judge  
United States District Court

/s/ Sharon L. Gleason  
SHARON L. GLEASON, Judge  
United States District Court

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