

**UNITED STATES BANKRUPTCY COURT
FOR THE EASTERN DISTRICT OF VIRGINIA**

Alexandria Division

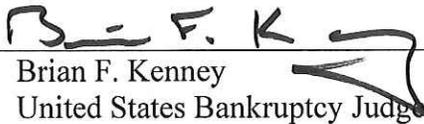
IN RE: COVAD-19 (CORONA VIRUS EMERGENCY)

STANDING ORDER

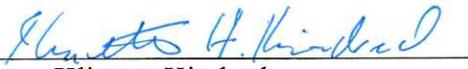
In light of the emergency caused by the Covad-19 (Corona Virus) Emergency, the Judges of the Alexandria Division hereby adopt the attached Alexandria Protocol for all Court hearings in the Alexandria Division.

It is so **ORDERED**.

Dated: March 16, 2020



Brian F. Kenney
United States Bankruptcy Judge



Klinette Kindred
United States Bankruptcy Judge

**UNITED STATES BANKRUPTCY COURT
EASTERN DISTRICT OF VIRGINIA**

Alexandria Division

PROTOCOL IN RESPONSE TO PUBLIC HEALTH EMERGENCY

Effective March 13, 2020 through April 30, 2020

This protocol (the “Protocol”) applies in all bankruptcy cases and proceedings during the period of March 13, 2020 through April 30, 2020 (the “Protocol Period”). During the Protocol Period, to the extent of any inconsistency between this Protocol, the local bankruptcy rules, and any applicable scheduling order, this Protocol shall govern. The Standing Order invoking this protocol will be posted on the Court’s website and distributed by the Clerk to all CM/ECF users by email. While this Protocol is intended to minimize the number of hearings held and in-person attendance at any required hearings, the due process rights and appellate rights of all parties-in-interest must be protected.

To reduce possible exposure to COVID-19, parties are encouraged to appear telephonically for any non-evidentiary matters. Instructions for telephonic appearances are available here. https://www.vaeb.uscourts.gov/wordpress/?page_id=4908.

1. **Obligations of Parties and Counsel.** Parties and counsel are responsible for becoming familiar with this Protocol and monitoring the Court’s website and the dockets of their cases. Counsel must make reasonable efforts to communicate with clients prior to any scheduled hearing and must specifically advise the client whether, in light of this Protocol, the client must attend said hearing.
2. **Continuance of Hearings by the Court.** Hearings may be scheduled or rescheduled by the Court to be heard during the Protocol Period. The Clerk shall provide notice of any such hearings scheduled or rescheduled by the Court.
3. **Consent Orders.** Attorneys and parties are encouraged to submit Consent Orders or Default Orders either at the expiration of any applicable notice periods or after the initially scheduled hearing date. The types of Motions on which the Court would expect to see Consent Orders or Default Orders include but are not limited to:
 - Consent Relief from Stay Orders
 - Orders Allowing the Purchase of Vehicles
 - Orders Approving Loan Modifications
 - Orders Approving Compromises
 - Fee Applications
 - Orders to Extend Time
4. **Continuance of Hearings by the Parties.** All matters, including final evidentiary hearings and trials, may be continued for cause upon consent motion and order. Cause

will be construed liberally and will include both health-related reasons and travel difficulties.

5. **Remote Hearings.** Unless otherwise ordered by the court, all non-evidentiary hearings during the Protocol Period may be conducted remotely by teleconference using CourtSolutions. All parties are encouraged to make liberal use of this policy.
6. **Hearings Non-Evidentiary.** All counsel are encouraged to make liberal use of the Court's negative notice procedures. All self-scheduled hearings during the Protocol Period shall be treated as non-evidentiary hearings. Any evidentiary hearing must be scheduled by appearing telephonically at a motions hearing and advising the Court that the matter needs to be scheduled for an evidentiary hearing.
7. **Request for Expedited Hearings.** During the Protocol Period, expedited hearings must be requested in accordance with the local rules. In addition, counsel should call Judge's Chambers to alert the Court to the request for an expedited hearing.
8. **Time Sensitive Orders or Other Court Action.** Any time-sensitive request not otherwise provided by any paragraph hereof should be directed to the Court.
9. **Deadlines.** Unless otherwise modified by order of the Court, all deadlines remain in full force in effect. The Court will consider any timely request to modify/toll deadlines, which should be made by appropriate motion and order.
10. This Protocol may be amended by further Standing Order, which shall be published on the Court's website and distributed by email to all CM/ECF users. Each Judge may vary this Protocol on a case-by-case basis in his or her discretion.