

UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT
WESTERN DISTRICT OF OKLAHOMA

FILED

AUG 21 2020

IN RE: SEPTEMBER 2020 CRIMINAL)
JURY TRIALS AND SUSPENSION OF) G.O. 20-20
CIVIL JURY TRIALS)

CARMELITA REEDER SWANN, CLERK
U.S. DIST. COURT, WESTERN DIST. OKLA.
BY CRS, DEPUTY

ORDER

The Court will conduct limited criminal jury trials in September 2020. Counsel will be advised by the presiding judge if their case is set on the September 2020 docket. All other criminal jury trials on the September 2020 docket are continued, to be reset by the presiding judge who will also address trial-related deadlines. The court finds that the COVID-19 pandemic continues to be a factor in the Western District of Oklahoma, with more than 51,000 Oklahomans testing positive for the disease and more than 700 deaths. The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (“CDC”) continues to recommend against large gatherings, which limits the number of prospective jurors who should be called for service. In addition, the CDC recommends continued social distancing, which effectively limits the number of jury trials that can be conducted at one time in order for the jurors to maintain appropriate social distancing. These factors counsel in favor of continuing all but a limited number of criminal trials. Therefore, the period of delay resulting from continuances implemented as a result of this Order will be excluded under the Speedy Trial Act, as the Court specifically finds that the ends of justice served by ordering continuances outweigh the best interests of the public and each defendant to a speedy trial. *See* 18 U.S.C. § 3161(h)(7)(A).

So that the Court may focus on criminal cases that were continued from prior dockets, civil jury trials on the September 2020 docket are continued, to be reset by the presiding judge. The presiding judge will also address trial-related deadlines.

ENTERED for the Court this 21st of August, 2020.



TIMOTHY D. DeGIUSTI
Chief United States District Judge