

UNITED STATES BANKRUPTCY COURT NORTHERN DISTRICT OF CALIFORNIA

In re:

MATTERS PENDING IN THE NORTHERN DISTRICT OF CALIFORNIA

AMENDED GENERAL ORDER 38

IN RE: COVID-19 Public Health Emergency

WHEREAS the President of the United States has declared a National Emergency in response to the COVID-19 outbreak;

WHEREAS the Governor of California has declared a State of Emergency in response to the outbreak and generally ordered that all individuals shelter-in-place;

WHEREAS Chief Judge Hamilton of the United States District Court for the Northern District of California has issued General Orders Nos. 72 and 73 (as amended), which, among other things, close the San Jose, Oakland and McKinleyville federal courts and consolidate that court's activities to its San Francisco court space; and

WHEREAS to ensure that the United States Bankruptcy Court for the Northern District of California adopts a uniform procedure to protect the health of the court staff, the attorneys who practice before it, and all parties and other interested persons, and to ensure the effective and expeditious administration of justice in its San Jose, Oakland, San Jose, San Francisco, Santa Rosa, Salinas and McKinleyville courtrooms;

NOW THEREFORE, the United States Bankruptcy Court for the Northern District of

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California hereby issues the following Amended Order, effective March 30, 2020 and through May 1. 2020:

1. All Bankruptcy Court locations are closed to the general public, and no court staff will be physically present to assist any attorney, party or other interested person or accept any document for filing at any court location. ECF Registered Participants may file electronically. All other parties may submit documents for filing by mail, email, or drop-box. Filing fee payments may be submitted by mail or drop-box.

Pleadings may be submitted by email to CANB-EMERGENCY-FILINGS@canb.uscourts.gov.

Pleadings or filing fee payments submitted by mail should be sent by U.S. Mail to United States Bankruptcy Court, 450 Golden Gate Avenue, Mail Box 36099, San Francisco, CA 94102.

Pleadings or filing fee payments may be submitted by drop-box at the San Francisco Federal Courthouse, which is located at 450 Golden Gate Avenue, San Francisco, CA. Access to the building and the drop-box is through the Turk Street entrance from 6 a.m. to 6 p.m. Individuals need valid government issues identification to enter the building. A date stamp machine is provided next to the drop-box, and documents will be picked up twice a week.

- 2. No in-court trial or evidentiary hearing will be held before May 1, 2020. All trials and evidentiary hearings scheduled through May 1, 2020 are vacated and will be reset by the presiding judge. If the circumstances warrant, the presiding judge may conduct a trial or evidentiary hearing prior to, on or after May 1, 2020 by video conference or other authorized means. Unless otherwise ordered by the presiding judge, there are no changes to currently calendared matters.
- 3. All counsel, parties and other interested persons who intend to appear on a calendared motion or application shall appear telephonically. Again, there will be no physical access to any courtroom. The instructions for appearing by telephone can be found on the Bankruptcy Court's website:

http://www.canb.uscourts.gov/procedure/district-oakland-san-jose-san-francisco/policy-and-procedu re-appearances-telephone

There is **NO COST** for this service for parties who are not represented by an attorney or to

any member of the press through April 30, 2020.

- 4. Any requirement that courtesy copies of filings be provided to chambers is suspended pending further notice.
- 5. Parties may continue matters that are set for hearing to future hearing dates that are consistent with this Order. Dates are posted on each presiding judge's calendar page. Requests for continuances shall be made in a manner consistent with each presiding judge's requirements.
- 6. Unless otherwise ordered by the presiding judge, there is no change to all other scheduling procedures including, but not limited to, applications for emergency injunctive relief, orders shortening time, and hearings on "First Day" Chapter 11 motions.
- 7. This Order supersedes any inconsistent information or direction in any standing order or notice related to the COVID-19 outbreak, and amends General Order 38, dated March 18, 2020.

IT IS SO ORDERED.

Dated: March 30, 2020

Charles Novack Chief Bankruptcy Judge