

**IN THE UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT  
FOR THE NORTHERN DISTRICT OF TEXAS**

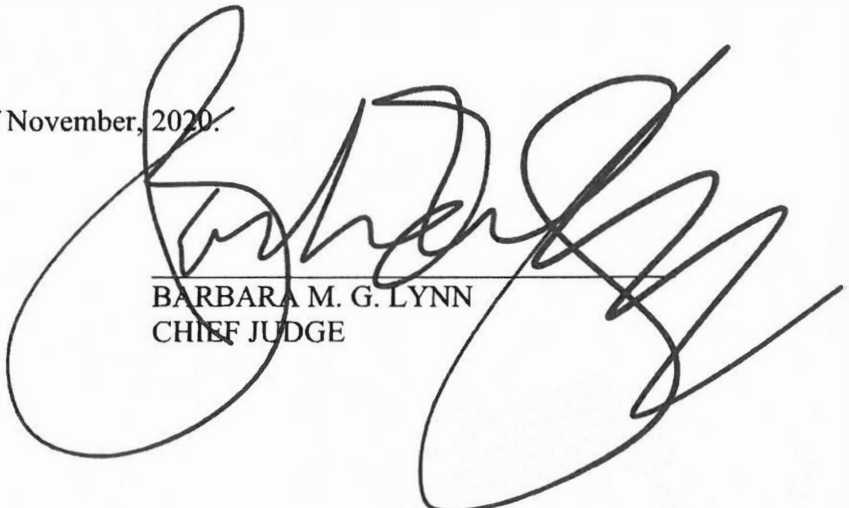
**SPECIAL ORDER NO 13-18**

**COURT OPERATIONS UNDER THE EXIGENT CIRCUMSTANCES  
CREATED BY THE COVID-19 PANDEMIC**

In recognition of the ongoing national health emergency caused by the spread of coronavirus disease 2019 (COVID-19) and recent significant increases in reported COVID-19 cases in the Northern District of Texas, all civil and criminal trials scheduled to be held between the date of this Order and through December 31, 2020, other than case number 4:19-cv-425 in the Fort Worth Division, are hereby continued to a date after January 1, 2021, to be reset by each presiding judge.

Due to the Court's reduced ability to obtain an adequate spectrum of jurors and the limited availability of attorneys and Court staff to be present in courtrooms because of serious public health considerations, the period of exclusion under the Speedy Trial Act, 18 U.S.C. § 3161(h)(7)(A) is extended through December 31, 2020. The Court finds that the ends of justice served by ordering continuances in criminal cases in the Northern District of Texas outweigh the best interests of the public and each defendant's right to a speedy trial. This Order and period of exclusion are incorporated by reference as a specific finding under 18 U.S.C. § 3161(h)(7)(A) in the record of each pending case where the Speedy Trial Act applies.

**SO ORDERED** this 18<sup>th</sup> day of November, 2020.



BARBARA M. G. LYNN  
CHIEF JUDGE