

**IN THE UNITED STATES BANKRUPTCY COURT
EASTERN AND WESTERN DISTRICTS OF ARKANSAS**

IN RE: COURT OPERATIONS DURING THE COVID-19 PANDEMIC

ADMINISTRATIVE ORDER

On March 16, 2020, the United States Bankruptcy Court for the Eastern and Western Districts of Arkansas suspended in person hearings until further notice in recognition of and in deference to the possible pandemic ramifications of the COVID-19 virus. Since that time, the Bankruptcy Clerk's offices in both Little Rock and Fayetteville, Arkansas, have remained open and operational. In addition, the court has conducted hearings and trials telephonically, by video conferencing, and in person.

Beginning, March 1, 2022, the court will resume in person hearings and trials in all divisions; however, the court may hold remote proceedings when practicable. The court has developed guidelines for conducting in person hearings and trials for the Central and Fayetteville (including Harrison cases) divisions. The same guidelines, in addition to any guidelines required by local practices, will be enforced in the Delta, El Dorado, Fort Smith, Hot Springs, Northern, and Texarkana divisions. The guidelines for in person hearings and trials, including social distancing, will be available on the court's website. The guidelines may be revised from time to time. The court recognizes that there may be members of the bar or parties with special circumstances who may not desire to attend in person. The guidelines address those special circumstances. Anyone who does attend an in person hearing or trial will be expected to adhere to the posted guidelines.

IT IS SO ORDERED.

Dated this 1st day of March, 2022

FOR THE COURT



PHYLLIS M. JONES
CHIEF U.S. BANKRUPTCY JUDGE



RICHARD D. TAYLOR
U.S. BANKRUPTCY JUDGE



Date: 03/01/2022

BIANCA M. RUCKER
U.S. BANKRUPTCY JUDGE