

Update Regarding Court Operations

Date: March 18, 2020

The United States District Court for the Southern District of Alabama remains open 8 am to 5 pm weekdays. Clerk Office employees are available by telephone during these hours. The District Court Clerk's intake desk hours are 10:00 am – 3:00 pm. During these hours the intake desk will be open for walk-in filings and other inquiries. Electronic filing is available anytime through the CM/ECF system.

The Court's Restrictions on Visitors to the Courthouse, implemented March 10, 2020, can be found on the Court's Website and are posted at the Courthouse. The public is encouraged to continue utilizing Court services while following all public health guidelines and the Court's restrictions.

In addition:

- The Court has continued all civil and criminal cases set for jury trial during the month of April. The next scheduled jury trial term begins April 27. A decision regarding whether this term will go forward will be made in late April.
- The Court continues to consider civil and criminal motions that can be resolved without oral argument.
- Should the Court determine oral argument would be helpful, such arguments will be conducted by telephone or video conference in most cases.
- Parties should not deliver courtesy copies of any filings to judges' chambers, unless specifically requested to do so.
- Initial Appearances, arraignments, and detention hearings will continue and defendants will appear via video conference. If an attorney has an objection to the appearance of their client via video conference, such objection should be filed with the presiding judge.

For questions about an individual case, attorneys should contact the chambers of the presiding judge.