

Tennessee Court Status Updates

Tennessee State Courts

On March 13, 2020, the Supreme Court of Tennessee declared a state of emergency for the Judicial Branch of Tennessee government. While Courts remain open, the Supreme Court entered an Administrative Order, effective through March 31, 2020, suspending all in-person court proceedings, except in certain limited criminal and emergency cases. Further, any case deadline set to expire between March 13 and March 31, 2020 is extended through April 6, 2020, and statutes of limitations and repose that would expire between March 13 and April 6, 2020 are extended through April 6, 2020. Individual courts may set matters for hearing telephonically or through other electronic means, but courts' abilities to do this vary greatly by county.

U.S. District Court for the Eastern District of Tennessee

Pursuant to the Court's March 16, 2020 Standing Order, all civil and criminal jury trials scheduled to commence between March 16 and April 24, 2020 are continued. Non-jury trials set to commence during this period will be handled at the discretion of the presiding judge. All cases not scheduled for a jury trial during this period will continue as scheduled, and the Court's Order does not impact case-specific deadlines set in each case's Scheduling Order. To the extent possible, oral proceedings should be conducted via telephone or video conferencing.

U.S. District Court for the Middle District of Tennessee

Pursuant to the Court's March 16, 2020 Administrative Order, all civil and criminal jury trials scheduled to commence between March 17 and March 30, 2020 are continued. Individual judges may continue to hold hearings, conferences, and bench trials in the exercise of their discretion, and such proceedings may be conducted by telephone or video conference where practicable and consistent with the law.

U.S. District Court for the Western District of Tennessee

Pursuant to the Court's March 17, 2020 Administrative Order, all civil judicial proceedings and jury trials are continued until after April 17, 2020. Pursuant to the Court's March 23, 2020 Administrative order, the Memphis federal courthouse is closed to the public until further order of the Court. Parties are instructed to continue to submit filings via CM/ECF. If parties have a Court appearance, appointment, or are otherwise scheduled to appear, the parties are instructed to contact the Clerk's Officer as soon as possible.