

## GENERAL ORDER 19-02

### IN THE UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT FOR THE EASTERN DISTRICT OF TEXAS

#### GENERAL ORDER REGARDING OPERATION OF THE UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT AND UNITED STATES BANKRUPTCY COURT FOR THE EASTERN DISTRICT OF TEXAS IN THE ABSENCE OF FUNDING

Recognizing that the Executive Branch and Legislative Branch of the United States are currently at an impasse regarding funding for the Judicial Branch of the United States, and recognizing the immediate need to address the natural consequences thereof, it is hereby **ORDERED** that:

1. In light of the geographical diversity of this District and the distances between courthouses, all employees within the various divisions of this District, including but not limited to: the District and Magistrate Courts and their personnel, the Bankruptcy Court and its personnel, the District Clerk's office, staff attorneys, court interpreters and coordinator, court reporters and the United States Probation Office, are **DEEMED ESSENTIAL** to carry out and support the constitutionally required judicial functions hereof.
2. All employees shall report to work for regular duties and hours unless otherwise instructed. Employees who are off work for any reason will be placed on furlough status for whatever period of time they are not working.
3. All non-case related travel shall cease, unless approved by the Chief Judge.
4. No new personnel hires shall occur and no new expenditures of funds shall be made without the approval of the Chief Judge.
5. Considering the need to provide continuing judicial functioning within this Court's constitutional mandate, the General Services Administration, United States Marshals Service and all courthouse protective services and maintenance contractors shall maintain all functions necessary for the continued operation and safety of the courthouses and personnel within this District.

This Order shall be immediately suspended upon receipt of renewed funding for the Judicial Branch when provided by the other Branches. This Order may be otherwise superseded or amended by subsequent Orders of the Court.

**Notwithstanding the date of execution, this General Order will be effective as of and from 5:00 PM CST on January 11, 2019.**

**FOR THE COURT.**

**So ORDERED and SIGNED this 3rd day of January, 2019.**

  
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RODNEY GILSTRAP  
Chief Judge