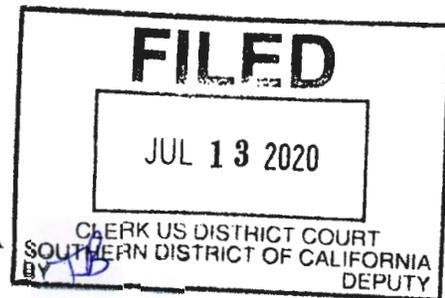


UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT  
SOUTHERN DISTRICT OF CALIFORNIA



In the matter of )  
)  
**COVID-19 PUBLIC** )  
**EMERGENCY USE OF VIDEO** )  
**AND TELEPHONIC** )  
**CONFERENCE TECHNOLOGY** )  
**IN CERTAIN CRIMINAL** )  
**PROCEEDINGS** )  
\_\_\_\_\_ )

**Order of the  
Chief Judge No. 31-B**

On July 9, 2020, the Chief Judge issued Order of the Chief Judge (OCJ) 31-A withdrawing the previous finding under Section 15002(b)(2) of the CARES Act, Pub. L. 116-136, that guilty plea and sentencing proceedings “cannot be conducted in person without seriously jeopardizing public health and safety.” On July 13, 2020, the undersigned was notified of an increase in the number of COVID-19 cases in Imperial County. Accordingly, the Court exempts the El Centro United States Courthouse from OCJ 31-A, and temporarily authorizes that Courthouse to continue to conduct felony plea and sentencing proceedings by video or telephonic conference pursuant to Section 15002(b)(2) of the CARES Act, consistent with OCJ 31.

This Order is effective immediately and will remain in place absent further order of the Court.

\* \* \*

IT IS SO ORDERED.

Dated: 7-13-2020

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Larry A. Burns".

\_\_\_\_\_  
LARRY ALAN BURNS  
Chief United States District Judge