

12/14/2020

Clerk, U.S. District Court  
District of Montana  
Missoula DivisionIN THE UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT  
FOR THE DISTRICT OF MONTANAIN RE: RENEWAL OF  
AUTHORIZATIONS AND  
FINDINGS UNDER THE CARES  
ACT


ADMINISTRATIVE ORDER 20-43

As the spread of COVID-19 infection continues within the population of the District of Montana and in particular within the facilities used to house detained federal criminal defendants, this Administrative Order amends and supersedes Administrative Order No. 20-18 dated April 10, 2020, and Administrative Order No. 20-28 dated September 18, 2020, as they relate to the authorizations given and findings made under the CARES Act, H.R. 748. Pursuant to Section 15002(b)(3)(A) of the CARES Act, the undersigned hereby renews the authorizations and findings contained in Paragraph (9) of Administrative Order 20-18.

Specifically, the undersigned Chief Judge hereby renews authorization for the use of video teleconferencing, or telephone conferencing if video teleconferencing is not reasonably available, for the ten types of criminal procedures enumerated in Section 15002(b)(1) of the CARES Act. The undersigned Chief Judge further renews the specific finding that felony pleas under Rule 11 of the Federal Rules of Criminal Procedure and felony sentencings under

Rule 32 of the Federal Rules of Criminal Procedure cannot be conducted in person without seriously jeopardizing public health and safety, as contemplated by Section 15002(b)(2) of the CARES Act. These findings will be reviewed after 90 days as required by Section 15002(b)(3)(A) of the CARES Act.

IT IS SO ORDERED this 14<sup>th</sup> day of December, 2020.

  
Brian Morris, Chief Judge  
United States District Court