

## IN THE UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT FOR THE DISTRICT OF NEW JERSEY

APR 1 3 2023

IN RE: VIDEO CONFERENCING AND

AT 8:30 M CLERK, U.S. DISTRICT COURT - DN.J

TELECONFERENCING FOR CRIMINAL PROCEEDINGS UNDER THE CARES ACT

NINTH EXTENSION OF STANDING ORDER 2021-03

WHEREAS, in response to the national emergency first declared on March 13, 2020, due to the outbreak of COVID-19, Congress enacted the CARES Act on March 27, 2020, authorizing the use of video and teleconferencing, under certain circumstances and with the consent of the defendant, for various criminal case events, during the course of the COVID-19 emergency and the Judicial Conference's finding that emergency pandemic conditions will materially affect the functioning of the federal courts ("Judicial Conference's finding"); and

WHEREAS, the national emergency was continued beyond March 1, 2021, and again, beyond March 1, 2022, and accordingly, this Court's initial CARES Act Standing Order was extended twelve times, most recently through the entry of the Eighth Extension of Standing Order 2021-03 ("Eighth Extension"), on January 26, 2023; and

WHEREAS, the CARES Act authorization ends 30 days after the date on which the national emergency declaration terminates or when the Judicial Conference finds that emergency pandemic conditions no longer materially affect the functioning of the federal courts; and

WHEREAS, while the Judicial Conference's finding remains unchanged, the national emergency declaration was terminated on April 10, 2023, and therefore, the authority to use video and teleconferencing technologies in certain criminal proceedings under §15002(b) of the CARES Act will expire on May 10, 2023; and

WHEREAS, to support the issuance of this Court's prior CARES Act Standing Orders, the Chief Judge of this Court found, most recently in the Eighth Extension, that pursuant to Sections 15002(b)(1) and (b)(2) of the CARES Act, criminal proceedings, and specifically, felony pleas and felony sentencings, could not be conducted in person without seriously jeopardizing public health and safety; and

**WHEREAS**, as Chief Judge, I herein renew the findings of the Eighth Extension, due to expire on April 26, 2023, and accordingly,

IT IS ORDERED, pursuant to Section 15002(b)(3) of the CARES Act, that the authorization to use video and teleconference technologies in criminal proceedings is hereby extended through May 10, 2023, unless the Judicial Conference's finding terminates prior thereto, or the Chief Judge determines that the authorization is no longer warranted, or this Order is modified by further Order of this Court.

Date: April 13,2023

Hon. Renée Marie Bumb

Chief United States District Judge