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

IN RE: STAY OF CIVIL MATTERS INVOLVING

THE UNITED STATES AS A PARTY

STANDING ORDER

2025-06

This matter is before the Court due to the lapse of congressional appropriations funding the

federal government, including the Department of Justice and the United States Attorneys' Office

for the District of New Jersey (the "United States Attorney's Office"). Absent an appropriation,

the United States represents that certain Department of Justice attorneys and employees of the

federal government are prohibited from working, even on a voluntary basis, except in very

limited circumstances, including "emergencies involving the safety of human life or the

protection of property." 31 U.S.C. § 1342. Therefore, the lapse in appropriations requires a

reduction in the workforce of the United States Attorney's Office and other federal agencies,

particularly with respect to prosecution and defense of civil cases. The Court, in response, and

with the intent to avoid any default or prejudice to the United States or other civil litigants

occasioned by the lapse in funding, enters this Order. As a result of the cited workforce

reductions, it is hereby

ORDERED, effective October 3, 2025, that all civil litigation in the United States District

Court for the District of New Jersey involving as a party the United States of America, its

agencies, its officers or employees (whether in their individual or official capacity and whether

current or former employees), and/or any other party represented by the Department of Justice

or the United States Attorney's Office, with the exception of: civil forfeiture cases; civil

immigration matters, whether affirmative or defensive; United States v. Cumberland County,

No. 23-cv-02655 (ESK); *United States v. Apple*, No. 24-cv-04055 (JXN); and *United States v. City of Newark*, No. 25-cv-5081 (EP), is immediately suspended, postponed, and held in abeyance continuing either (1) until the federal government is funded through congressional appropriation or (2) for a period of thirty (30) days from the entry of this Order, whichever comes sooner. The Court may renew or modify this Order depending on developments during the stay period. The Court intends "civil litigation" to include all pending non-criminal cases in which the United States, its agencies, its officers or employees (whether in their individual or official capacity and whether current or former employees) is in any way a named party and any non-criminal cases in which the United States Attorney's Office or the Department of Justice is counsel of record. This Order includes, without further limitation, all other cases seeking monetary or equitable relief in which the United States is involved as a civil litigant.

This Order suspends and continues, during the stay, any and all events and deadlines in the affected civil litigation (whether established by order, rule, or agreement), including but not limited to any scheduled proceedings, hearings, discovery and pleading dates, and/or compliance and administration of consent orders. No party will be required to take any steps in civil litigation affected until expiration of the stay. The Court warns litigants that this Order does not purport to affect rights to or deadlines concerning appeal from any decision of this Court, which will continue to operate and issue orders in the normal course.

Any litigant affected by this Order may seek relief from the Order by motion. The Court may, in any particular case, vary the effect or operation of this Order by a separate ruling.

This Standing Order shall be published and/or distributed as follows:

- (a) The Clerk of Court shall post this Standing Order on the Court's public website;
- (b) The Government must file this Standing Order in all affected civil matters involving pro

se litigants and must serve this same Standing Order on all pro se litigants who do not receive electronic notifications via CM/ECF; and

(c) The Government may elect to file this Standing Order in affected civil matters that do not involve *pro se* litigants.

FOR THE COURT

Renée Marie Bumb Chief U.S. District Judge District of New Jersey

Dated in Camden, New Jersey this 3rd day of October, 2025.