



**UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT
EASTERN DISTRICT OF CALIFORNIA**

IN RE:	)	
	)	
OPERATION OF THE UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT FOR THE EASTERN OF CALIFORNIA DURING A LAPSE IN APPROPRIATIONS	)	GENERAL ORDER NO. 692
	)	
	)	
	)	

During the current government shutdown, the United States District Court for the Eastern District of California remains open and can continue operations currently through October 17, 2025, by using court fee balances and other funds not dependent on a new appropriation. If the shutdown continues past this date, and exhausts the federal Judiciary’s resources, the Eastern District of California will continue to operate fully staffed acknowledging 31 U.S.C. § 1341 which authorizes retroactive pay for furloughed employees and allows work to continue and obligations to be incurred during a lapse in appropriations if they are necessary to the exercise of the Judiciary’s constitutional functions.

Pursuant to the *Guide to Judiciary Policy*, Vol. 13, Ch. 2, § 220.30, et seq., the United States District Court for the Eastern District of California hereby adopts the following plan for operating during the current government shutdown. This plan provides guidance but is flexible and subject to immediate change to meet actual needs and circumstances.

The Eastern District of California has been for the past 30 years, and continues to be, one of the busiest, if not the busiest district court in the Nation. Currently the Eastern District of California operates with a pending caseload per judgeship of 1,261 cases, nearly twice the national average. The Eastern District has nearly 7,500 pending cases with only six (6) authorized district judgeships. The filing to disposition of felony criminal cases in the Eastern District is currently averaging 31.4 months, over three times the national average, the longest of any district court in the Nation. Any lapse in the resolution of civil or criminal cases and controversies in the Eastern District of California would have a catastrophic and enduring effect on the caseload of the district and the administration of justice now and for years to come. All employees of the United States District Court, the United States Probation Office and the United States Pretrial Services Office are instrumental in supporting the judges of the Court and allowing the judges to uphold their constitutional obligations and duties and address this staggering caseload.

Accordingly, is hereby ORDERED,

1. After careful analysis required by the *Guide to Judiciary Policy* Vol. 13, Ch. 2, § 220.30.10(c), the Court finds that the United States District Court, the United States Probation Office and the United States Pretrial Services Office utilize interrelated departments and employees, who depend upon each other for the performance of their functions in support of the judiciary. Therefore, all employees of the United States District Court, the United States Probation Office and the United States Pretrial Services Office are essential in support of the Court's Article III judicial powers, obligations and duties.

2. In the event of a lapse of appropriations, all employees of the United States District Court, the United States Probation Office and the United States Pretrial Services

Office are essential and required to report for work for their regularly scheduled hours until further notice.

3. The United States District Court will continue case resolution activity, including the proper and timely processing of all filings, motions, orders, emergency applications, and other litigation documents. Fees and costs will continue to be collected and deposited into the Treasury. New cases, including both civil and criminal, will be accepted and processed in the normal manner. The United States District Court will continue regular administration of the jury system and provide all necessary services to both petit and grand juries. The United States Probation Office will continue all activities that, if delayed, would jeopardize the ability of the constitutionally provided duties of the judges of the Eastern District of California. The supervision of potentially dangerous offenders will be maintained and needed treatment services will be provided. The United States Probation Office will continue to handle new cases and maintain existing cases, as necessary, to assist the courts in implementing their orders and judgments. The United States Pretrial Services Office will continue to produce reports on bail or release, and provide other services required by the judges of the court in the performance of their constitutional duties

4. All United States District Court travel is prohibited, unless approved in advance by the Chief Judge, pursuant to a required finding that the travel is essential to continue court operations.

5. No new United States District Court personnel shall be hired, and no new expenditures of funds shall be made, without the consent of the Chief Judge.

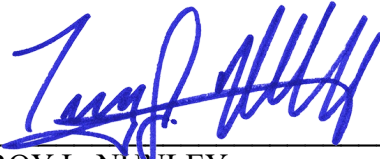
6. The General Services Administration shall provide the level of services and building maintenance normally provided, and the United States Marshal's Service shall

maintain all functions necessary for the appropriate security for all judges and court employees and for the safe use of facilities occupied by the United States District Court, the United States Probation Office and the United States Pretrial Services Office.

8. The forgoing measures shall take effect until superseded by a funding appropriation or continuing resolution.

Dated: October 1, 2025

FOR THE COURT:

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Troy L. Nunley', is written over a horizontal line.

TROY L. NUNLEY
CHIEF UNITED STATES DISTRICT JUDGE