## FILED

JUL - 2 2020

## IN THE UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT FOR THE EASTERN DISTRICT OF NORTH CAROLINA

No. 20-JP-2-RN

In re: Duty Court Proceedings Before United States Magistrate Judge Robert T. Numbers, II During the National Emergency Created by the COVID-19 Pandemic

Judicial Preference Order

I previously issued a Judicial Preference Order providing for the use of videoconference and teleconference technology during preliminary criminal proceedings before me. *See* 20-JP-1-RN. By its own terms, that order was to expire 90 days after it issued unless I extended it.

Considering the continuing threat posed to the Eastern District of North Carolina by the COVID-19 virus, Judicial Preference Order 20-JP-1-RN shall remain in effect until one of the following events occur:

- 1. I enter an order terminating 20-JP-1-RN;
- 2. The court terminates all standing orders authorizing the use of videoconference and teleconference technology during preliminary criminal proceedings due to COVID-19-related concerns. *See, e.g.*, Standing Orders 20-SO-7 & 20-SO-9;
- 3. The Judicial Conference finds that the emergency conditions based on the national emergency declared by the President no longer materially effect the functioning of this court or the functioning of the courts generally; or
- 4. 30 days have passed since the termination of the President's national emergency declaration under National Emergencies Act with respect to COVID-19.

Dated: July 2, 2020

obert T Numbers TE

Robert T. Numbers, II United States Magistrate Judge