

UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT
SOUTHERN DISTRICT OF TEXAS
HOUSTON AND GALVESTON DIVISIONS

United States District Court
Southern District of Texas
ENTERED
June 26 2020

David J. Bradley, Clerk of Court

By Deputy Clerk 

IN RE: TEMPORARY CLOSING OF §
THE BOB CASEY U.S. COURTHOUSE §
IN HOUSTON, TEXAS AND THE UNITED §
STATES POST OFFICE AND §
COURTHOUSE IN GALVESTON, TEXAS §

SPECIAL ORDER H-2020-19

ORDER

To protect the health and safety of the public, staff, and judicial officers from exposure to or spread of COVID-19, and with the concurrence of the Facility Security Committee, including the U.S. Court of Appeals for the Fifth Circuit, and the U.S. Marshal, and in consultation with GSA, it is ORDERED the Bob Casey U.S. Courthouse in Houston, Texas and the United States Post Office and Courthouse in Galveston, Texas will close to the public beginning June 29, 2020 until July 10, 2020, subject to further developments and court order. The courts continue to encourage remote or virtual proceedings when feasible and in the interests of justice.

During the closure to the public, employees and contractors who enter either the Houston or Galveston courthouses must wear masks or face coverings in public areas and in shared workspaces where safe social distancing is not possible. When the courthouses reopen to the public, it will be subject to conditions such as wearing face masks in the building and following safe social distancing guidelines.

The United States District Court for the Southern District of Texas remains open for official business. The Court's Electronic Case Filing (ECF) system is not affected by the closure, and parties may continue to file electronically and email documents to the Clerk's Office pursuant to the Standing Orders and other instructions on the Court's website.

The Court's website is being updated regularly. Consult the Court's website for further guidance: www.txs.uscourts.gov.

Signed this 26th day of June, 2020.

A handwritten signature in black ink, reading "Lee H. Rosenthal". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large, sweeping flourish at the end.

LEE H. ROSENTHAL
CHIEF JUDGE