

UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT  
SOUTHERN DISTRICT OF TEXAS

United States District Court  
Southern District of Texas  
ENTERED

April 24, 2023

Nathan Ochsner, Clerk of Court

By Deputy Clerk 

TERMINATION OF CARES ACT §  
AUTHORIZATION FOR VIDEO §  
AND AUDIO CONFERENCING §  
IN CRIMINAL PROCEEDINGS §


GENERAL ORDER NO. 2023-8

TERMINATION OF CARES ACT AUTHORIZATION FOR VIDEO  
AND AUDIO CONFERENCING IN CRIMINAL PROCEEDINGS ORDER

On April 10, 2023, following House and Senate passage, the President signed into law a Joint Resolution (H.J. Res. 7), which provides that “the national emergency declared by the finding of the President on March 13, 2020, in Proclamation 9994 . . . is hereby terminated.” As a result, the authority to use video and teleconferencing technologies in criminal proceedings previously authorized under § 15002(b) of the CARES Act will expire on Wednesday, May 10, 2023.

Pending proceedings conducted by video and teleconferencing technologies pursuant to the CARES Act should be concluded by May 10, 2023. In the rare and unlikely event that a proceeding specified in the CARES Act was pending on April 10, 2023, and cannot be concluded by May 10, the exception specified in the National Emergencies Act for an “action taken or proceeding pending not finally concluded or determined on [April 10],” 50 U.S.C. § 1622(a)(2)(A), could potentially apply to warrant continued use of video and teleconferencing technologies to conduct that proceeding until its conclusion.

ORDERED this the 24th day of April 2023.

  
RANDY CRANE  
CHIEF JUDGE