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

United States District Court Southern District of Texas ENTERED March 3, 2021 Nathan Ochsner, Clerk of Court By Deputy Clerk

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

SPECIAL ORDER H-2021-8

The Bob Casey U.S. Courthouse in Houston, Texas and the United States Post Office and Courthouse in Galveston, Texas are open to the public. However, the court continues to encourage remote or virtual proceedings when feasible and in the interests of justice.

The mask mandates previously issued for the Houston and Galveston courthouses remain in effect until further Order of this court. The public, employees, and contractors who enter the Houston and Galveston courthouses must wear masks or face coverings in public areas and in shared workspaces where safe social distancing is not possible. The U.S. Marshal's Service may exclude from the courthouse anyone who does not wear a mask or maintain social distancing. Those coming to the courthouse must provide their own masks; they will not be available at the courthouse.

The United States District Court for the Southern District of Texas is open for, and is busy carrying out, its work. The court's Electronic Case Filing (ECF) system is not affected, and parties may continue to file electronically and email documents to the clerk's office following the standing orders and other instructions on the court's website. Consult the court's regularly updated website for further guidance: <u>www.txs.uscourts.gov</u>.

Signed this <u>3rd</u> day of March, 2021.

Lee N. Rosentha

LEE H. ROSENTHAL CHIEF JUDGE