UNITED STATES BANKRUPTCY COURT EASTERN DISTRICT OF LOUISIANA

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IN THE MATTER OF	
RECEIPT DATE OF PAPER FILINGS DURING PUBLIC HEALTH AND SAFETY CRISES	

GENERAL ORDER NO: 2020-6

<u>GENERAL ORDER CALCULATING RECEIPT DATE OF PAPER FILINGS</u> <u>DURING PUBLIC HEALTH AND SAFETY CRISES</u>

On April 3, 2020, this Court entered Amended General Order 2020-2 adopting hearing protocols during public health and safety crises, such as the COVID-19 pandemic. On April 3, 2020, the United States District Court for the Eastern District of Louisiana entered the COVID-19 Amended General Order No. 20-5 (the "<u>Building Closure Order</u>") closing to the public the Hale Boggs Federal Building located at 500 Poydras Street, New Orleans, Louisiana. The Building Closure Order permits access to the building by skeletal crews only, which are necessary to perform critical mission responsibilities, urging litigants to file documents electronically, by U.S. mail, or by facsimile.

In compliance with the Building Closure Order, the Bankruptcy Court for the Eastern District of Louisiana is operating and performing critical mission responsibilities with a minimal skeletal crew. Those critical mission responsibilities include processing paper filings received by U.S. mail. As a result,

IT IS ORDERED that, until further notice, this Court's policy on calculating the receipt date of paper filings received by U.S. mail during the COVD-19 public health and safety crisis is the postmark date plus one day. This is the "Deemed Filed Date." *See* 28 U.S.C. § 2071; Fed. R.

Bankr. P. 1001 & 9029 (permitting federal courts to enact local rules or standing orders, as long as the enactments are consistent with federal law and rules). Effective April 3, 2020, the Deemed Filed Date will be applied to all paper filings received by the Court by U.S. Mail.

New Orleans, Louisiana, April 17, 2020.

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MEREDITH S. GRABILL UNITED STATES BANKRUPTCY JUDGE