

UNITED STATES BANKRUPTCY COURT  
NORTHERN DISTRICT OF FLORIDA

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In re:

EMERGENCY MEASURES  
DUE TO HURRICANE  
SALLY

ADMINISTRATIVE ORDER  
NO. 20-009

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**EMERGENCY ORDER REGARDING PENSACOLA  
DIVISION DEADLINES EXTENDED DUE TO  
HURRICANE SALLY**

Hurricane Sally made landfall as a Category 2 hurricane at approximately 5:45 a.m. Wednesday, September 16, 2020; by approximately 1:00 p.m. the storm was categorized as an “epic proportion flooding event.”<sup>1</sup> Streets and businesses are flooded, power is out for hundreds of thousands, water has been shut off in Pensacola Beach, trees and power lines are down, and a large section of Pensacola’s Three-Mile Bridge that connects to the city of Gulf Breeze is missing. The Sheriff of Escambia County, which includes Pensacola, anticipates evacuations in the thousands and water rescues were reported to be ongoing in Gulf

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<sup>1</sup> The Weather Channel, <https://weather.com/> (last visited September 16, 2020).

Shores, Alabama, where homes flooded and trees toppled onto roofs, according to that city's spokesman, Grant Brown.<sup>2</sup>

The continuing impacts of Hurricane Sally, including extensive and, in certain places catastrophic flooding and other damage are impacting and expected to continue impacting Court personnel, Court security officers, attorneys and parties in and around the Pensacola Division of this Court. Fed. R. Bankr. P. 9006(a)(3) allows the Court to extend time filing requirements under Rule 9006(a)(1) when the Clerk's Office is deemed inaccessible.<sup>3</sup> The Court deems the Clerk's Office in the Pensacola Division inaccessible.

Extraordinary circumstances exist such that the interests of justice are served, and the interests of the public are served, by the enactment of the measures in this Order.

For these reasons, IT IS ORDERED:

1. Except as otherwise provided in court orders in cases and proceedings, all periods set by statutes of limitation applicable

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<sup>2</sup> Jason Hanna & Tina Burnside, *Hurricane Sally slams into Alabama and Florida, and Rescues from widespread flooding are underway*, CNN, <https://www.cnn.com/2020/09/16/weather/hurricane-sally-wednesday/index.html> (last visited September 16, 2020).

<sup>3</sup> Fed R. Bankr. P. 9006(a)(3): "Unless the court orders otherwise, if the clerk's office is inaccessible: (A) on the last day for filing under Rule 9006(a)(1), then the time for filing is extended to the first accessible day that is not a Saturday, Sunday, or legal holiday; or (B) during the last hour for filing under 9006(a)(2), then the time for filing is extended to the same time on the first accessible day that is not a Saturday, Sunday, or legal holiday."

to causes of action, cases and proceedings filed, or to be filed in this Court are suspended for cases assigned to the Pensacola Division, through Monday, September 21, 2020, or until further order of the Court.

2. All time filing requirements for pleadings, including motions and responses, in cases in the Pensacola Division are extended through Monday, September 21, 2020, or a date set by further order of the Court.

3. *Pro se* (self-represented) parties are authorized to continue filing pleadings and papers electronically or by such other means as the Court has authorized due to the COVID-19 pandemic.

4. Any party or attorney that is not resident in or whose office is not in the Pensacola Division that can demonstrate good cause may request the relief provided by this Order.

**DONE and ORDERED** on September 16, 2020.



KAREN K. SPECIE  
Chief United States Bankruptcy Judge