

UNITED STATES BANKRUPTCY COURT
NORTHERN DISTRICT OF FLORIDA
www.flnb.uscourts.gov

In re:

EMERGENCY MEASURES	)	Administrative Order
DUE TO HURRICANE ISAIAS	)	No. 26-002
	)	
	/	

EMERGENCY ORDER REGARDING DEADLINES
EXTENDED DUE TO HURRICANE ISAIAS

Hurricane Isaias made landfall as a Category 2 storm at approximately 9:30 p.m. (ET) on Friday, October 9, 2026, on the Gulf coast, near Destin, Florida.¹ Rain, wind, and other adverse weather effects from Hurricane Isaias began impacting the Northern District on Friday, October 9, 2026. In and around the Panhandle of Florida, including Panama City to Pensacola and other portions of the Northern District, streets, homes, and businesses are damaged, and trees and power lines are down.

As of October 10, 2026, over 400,000 are without power in Escambia, Santa Rosa, Okaloosa, Walton, Holmes, Washington, and

¹ Sophie Bates, Emile Megnien & John Seewer, *Isaias weakens but flooding threat persists as hundreds of thousands grapple with power outages*, AP, <https://apnews.com/article/hurricane-isaias-flooding-power-outages-65ac97bf16477d89ec6f847b09ccb6fc> (last visited Oct. 10, 2026).

Jackson counties. Some counties are experiencing outages affecting over 85% of customers.

In certain places, the effects of Hurricane Isaias continue to impact, and are expected to continue impacting, Court personnel, Court security officers, attorneys, and parties in the Northern District of Florida, particularly with respect to cases assigned to or to be filed in the Panama City and Pensacola Divisions of this Court.

Bankruptcy Rule 9006(a)(3) allows the Court to extend time filing requirements under Rule 9006(a)(1) when the Clerk's Office is deemed inaccessible.² Bankruptcy Code section 105(a) provides that a "court may issue any order, process, or judgment that is necessary or appropriate to carry out the provisions of this title."³ That section also provides that bankruptcy courts may *sua sponte* take any action or make any determination necessary to prevent an abuse of process or to enforce or implement court orders or rules.⁴

² 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 [Rule 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.").

³ 11 U.S.C. § 105(a).

⁴ Id.

The Court deems the Clerk's Office inaccessible to those who have no power or access to the Internet for the purposes of electronic filing or submission of papers and documents via email or in person. Although the Clerk's Office in Tallahassee is not affected for in-person filings, many parties and attorneys do not currently have access even to computers or printers, due to destruction of property and/or lack of power. Extraordinary circumstances exist such that the interests of justice and the public are served by the measures in this Order.

For these reasons, beginning with deadlines that originally may have expired on October 9, 2026,

IT IS ORDERED:

1. Except as otherwise provided in court orders in cases and proceedings, all periods set by statutes of limitation applicable to causes of action, cases and proceedings filed, or to be filed in this Court are suspended for cases assigned to the Panama City and Pensacola Divisions, through October 23, 2026, or until further order of the Court.
2. All time filing requirements for pleadings, including motions and responses, in cases in the Panama City and Pensacola

Divisions are extended through October 23, 2026, 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, by email, or by such other means as the Court has authorized.
4. Any party or attorney not resident in or whose office is not in the Panama City or Pensacola Divisions that can demonstrate good cause may request the relief provided by this Order.
5. Effective upon the date of this Order and through October 23, 2026, or further order of the Court, subject to the conditions stated below, the Court suspends the requirement for CM/ECF Registered Participants (“Registered Participant(s)”) to retain for four years after the closing of the case documents with original signatures, including Official Form 121, petitions, lists, schedules, statements, pleadings, affidavits, and other documents requiring verification under Fed. R. Bankr. P. 1008 and an unsworn declaration as provided in 28 U.S.C. § 1746 as set out in the *Administrative Procedures for*

Filing, Signing, and Verifying Pleadings and Papers by Electronic Means attached to Standing Order No. 11.

6. This suspension is expressly conditioned on the following: that before filing the document or pleading in question, the Registered Participant has either:
 - a. obtained a digital signature via any commercially available digital signature software that provides signature authentication and maintains a copy of the digitally signed document in his or her case file; or
 - b. obtained express written permission from the signatory to file the document or pleading in question.
7. The filing of a document or pleading under this Administrative Order constitutes a certification that the Registered Participant either has obtained the signatory's original, physical signature or has complied with the foregoing conditions.
8. The electronic signature or the written permission shall have the same force and effect as if the Registered Participant possesses the paper original of such document.

9. Because of the strict provisions of 11 U.S.C. § 362, despite the extension of time provided in paragraph 2, the Court shall continue to rule on motions to extend or reimpose the automatic stay if no objections are filed within fourteen (14) days, as provided in Amended Administrative Order 15-002. Such rulings will be without prejudice to the rights of parties and attorneys described in paragraph 2 to seek reconsideration of any order extending or reinstating the automatic stay.
10. This Administrative Order does not waive, suspend, limit, or alter any other ECF Procedures requirement or provisions of this Court's Local Rules, the Bankruptcy Code, or Federal Rules of Bankruptcy Procedure.

DONE AND ORDERED on October 10, 2026.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Mary W. Colón', written over a horizontal line.

MARY W. COLÓN
Chief U.S. Bankruptcy Judge