

**SUPERIOR COURT OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA
ADMINISTRATIVE ORDER 04-23**

**(Processing of Bench Warrants III)
(Extends Admin. Order 04-21)**

WHEREAS, Administrative Order 04-17 established a pilot project to begin on September 7, 2004 during which Courtroom C-10 began hearing lock-up cases at 1:00 p.m. Monday through Friday and 11:00 a.m. on Saturday; and

WHEREAS, as part of the pilot project, bench warrant returns must ultimately be handled by the judicial officers who issued the warrants, but during the pilot project some were certified to Courtroom C-10 for presentment and scheduling, where they added to an already heavy docket; and

WHEREAS, as part of an effort to facilitate the more effective handling of presentments and arraignments in Courtroom C-10, the C-10 committee recommended deferring bench warrant returns until they could be scheduled before the judicial officer who issued the warrant or a designee, particularly for those cases in which defendants were before the court with both new lock-up cases and outstanding bench warrants;

NOW, THEREFORE, IT IS HEREBY,

ORDERED, that the C-10 pilot is further extended through Friday December 31, 2004, and shall continue on the same terms and conditions as set forth below; and it is further

ORDERED, that except as provided below, defendants arrested on outstanding bench warrants shall be heard by the judicial officers who issued the warrants or their designees on the day they are notified of the arrest; and it is further,

ORDERED, that in cases where the judicial officer or a designee cannot be readily contacted, or cannot hear a bench warrant case due to courtroom unavailability, marshal unavailability or unavailability of the judicial officer or a designee, **the warrant office shall certify the case to C-10**, and bond shall remain as specified in the warrant unless the judicial officer specifies otherwise; and it is further,

ORDERED, that in cases where the bench warrant arrest occurs on a Saturday or holiday and the defendant arrives at the courthouse prior to cut-off, the presiding judge in Courtroom C-10 shall hear the bench warrant matter for purposes of scheduling a date for the judicial officer who issued the warrant to hear the case; and it is further,

ORDERED, that defendants who are before the Court on both new charges and outstanding bench warrants shall appear in Courtroom C-10 only on the new charges, which shall be heard first, and the warrant office shall continue the bench warrant matter consistent with the provisions of the foregoing paragraphs.

SO ORDERED.

BY THE COURT

October 29, 2004

Rufus G. King, III
Chief Judge

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