

SECOND GENERAL ORDER REGARDING DEBT COLLECTION CASES

Effective November 10, 2021

The statutory moratorium prohibiting certain debt collection activities during the period of the public health emergency and for 60 days after its conclusion (the “Covered Period”) ended on September 23, 2021. Accordingly, the General Order Regarding Debt Collection Cases issued on May 7, 2020 (“First General Order”) is no longer in effect.

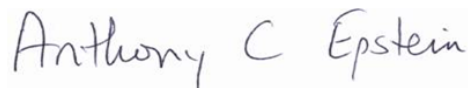
Under the First General Order, all deadlines and time limits in statutes, court rules, and standing and other orders, including statutes of limitation and service of process deadlines, that would otherwise expire during the Covered Period were tolled until the end of the Covered Period, which was September 23, 2021. In any case that was subject to the First General Order, that is pending on the effective date of this Second General Order, and in which the plaintiff has not filed proof of service by the effective date of this Second General Order, the deadline for service is extended to 90 days after the effective date of this Second General Order. In any such case, the plaintiff must serve a copy of this Second General Order with the other documents specified in Small Claims Rule 4(a) and Civil Rules 4(c)(1) and 4(m)(3).

In any case that was subject to the First General Order, that is pending on the effective date of this Second General Order, and in which the plaintiff has not filed proof of service by the effective date of this Second General Order, the court will issue a notice of hearing or order scheduling hearing at least 120 days after the date on which the hearing notice is issued. The clerk’s office will send this hearing notice or order to all parties. In any case in which such a hearing notice or order is issued, the plaintiff must serve a copy of the hearing notice or order with the other documents specified in Small Claims Rule 4(a) and Civil Rules 4(c)(1) 4(m)(3).

This Second General Order does not affect the ability of any plaintiff to seek a further extension of the time for service under Small Claims Rule 19(d) or Civil Rules 4(m)(2) and/or 40-III(d).

This General Order shall remain in effect unless and until it is rescinded or modified by the Presiding Judge of the Civil Division.

Issued on November 10, 2021 by order of the Presiding Judge of the Civil Division.



Anthony C. Epstein
Presiding Judge
Civil Division
Superior Court of the District of Columbia