

FILED

JUN 04 2020

**IN THE UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT
FOR THE SOUTHERN DISTRICT OF ILLINOIS**

**CLERK, U.S. DISTRICT COURT
SOUTHERN DISTRICT OF ILLINOIS
EAST ST. LOUIS OFFICE**

**In Re:)
Compassionate Release Provision of) Administrative Order No. 265
The First Step Act of 2018.) (Second Amendment)**

SECOND AMENDED ADMINISTRATIVE ORDER

This Second Amended Administrative Order amends and supersedes all prior versions of Administrative Order No. 265 delineating procedures for handling motions for compassionate release.

On December 21, 2018, the President signed into law Senate Bill 756, the First Step Act of 2018. Title VI, Section 603(b) of the First Step Act reforms (18 U.S.C. § 3582(c)(1)(A)) and allows a defendant to move a federal court for compassionate release “*after* the defendant has fully exhausted all administrative rights to appeal a failure of the Bureau of Prisons to bring a motion on the defendant’s behalf or the lapse of 30 days from the receipt of such a request by the warden of the defendant’s facility, whichever is earlier” (emphasis added).

To ensure the efficient adjudication of compassionate release motions pursuant to Section 603(b) of the First Step Act, the undersigned, as Chief Judge, orders the following:

1. Upon the filing of a motion for compassionate release, the Court will conduct a preliminary review to determine whether the motion is facially frivolous or premature. During the preliminary review process, the Court may permit amendment and/or request additional information.
2. Pursuant to The Crime Victims’ Rights Act, 18 U.S.C. § 3771, victims have the right to notice of “any public court proceeding” involving “the crime or of any release or escape of the accused” and the right to be heard “at any public proceeding” involving “release, plea, sentencing, or any parole proceeding.” Therefore, the U.S. Attorney’s Office is permitted to provide notice of any motion for compassionate release to any victim.
3. As a service to the affected defendants, the Federal Public Defender’s Office (“FPD”) is willing to enter its appearance on behalf of all defendants who file

a *pro se* motion directly with this district court for compassionate relief pursuant to Section 603(b) of the First Step Act. Should there be a conflict of interest between any defendant and the FPD, the Court shall be notified, and the Federal Public Defender for the Eastern District of Missouri will be authorized to enter its appearance.

4. The FPD may also enter its appearance if a defendant contacts the FPD to file the motion on the defendant's behalf and the FPD determines the motion would not be frivolous. Any defendant not previously represented by the FPD or a CJA attorney will need to complete an *in forma pauperis* application. In addition, previous counsel may file a motion on behalf of his or her client if contacted to do so and if the previous counsel determines the motion would not be frivolous.
5. The Court will notify the FPD of all *pro se* motions seeking relief pursuant to Section 603 of the First Step Act, regardless of the nomenclature the defendant uses in the document.
6. If a motion survives preliminary review, the FPD shall enter an appearance within seven days of notice that the motion is proceeding.
7. Upon counsel's entry of appearance, the United States Probation Office ("USPO"), the U.S. Attorney's Office ("USAO"), the Federal Public Defender's Office ("FPD") and the Clerk of Court are authorized to disclose copies of all relevant medical records,¹ judgments, presentence investigation reports, addenda, statements of reasons, and other relevant documents to the parties for the purpose of determining eligibility for relief.
8. To facilitate prompt identification and acquisition of all relevant records, upon entry of appearance, counsel for the defendant will identify which records maintained by the U.S. Bureau of Prisons should be requested, which may include medical records for the six-month period preceding the date of the motion for compassionate release was filed. Upon receipt of the list of documents and records sought by the defendant, the USAO, without delay, will forward the request to the U.S. Bureau of Prisons with a request that the

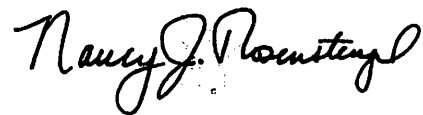
¹ Under 45 C.F.R. § 164.512(e), this Administrative Order constitutes a "court order" for the disclosure of protected health information.

records be returned to the USAO and defense counsel of record. Counsel for the inmate shall provide reciprocal discovery of any information relevant to the motion for compassionate release to the USPO and the USAO.

9. Upon receipt of additional records about the inmate's condition, the FPD shall file a supplement to the defendant's *pro se* motion or a statement indicating that the defendant's motion needs no supplementation. If the FPD determines the defendant's motion is untimely or frivolous, the FPD shall file a motion to withdraw. The FPD also shall notify the defendant if it will not be filing a supplemental motion.
10. The USAO shall respond to a compassionate release motion filed by counsel within fourteen days.
11. After the USAO files its response to the motion, the Court may order the USPO to conduct a preliminary investigation to assist the Court in assessing determining if the defendant should be released to the community. The investigation will include identifying any pertinent updates to the defendant's history and characteristics since sentencing, the time remaining on the sentence, if additional conditions of supervised release are necessary to address the needs and/or risk of the defendant, and assessment of the release plan. The USPO shall complete a memo detailing the results of its investigation and disclose the memo to all parties.
12. If the FPD files a motion to withdraw, the Court will determine whether a response to the *pro se* motion is required by the USAO and whether a preliminary investigation is needed from the USPO and, if so, set a deadline for the filing for each.
13. All cases subject to this Order shall be assigned to the initial sentencing Judge, and if not available, by random reassignment by the Clerk of Court.

IT IS SO ORDERED.

DATED: June 4, 2020



NANCY J. ROSENSTENGEL
Chief U.S. District Judge