

UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT
DISTRICT OF MINNESOTA

IN RE: RESTRICTIONS ON ACCESS
TO THE ST. PAUL FEDERAL COURTHOUSE

GENERAL ORDER

WHEREAS a jury trial in the case of *United States v. Thao*, Criminal Case No. 21-108 (PAM/TNL), is scheduled to begin on January 20, 2022,

WHEREAS the above case is subject to substantial national attention and raises the possibility of significant disruptions during trial and considerable security concerns,

WHEREAS there is an ongoing national emergency due to the COVID-19 pandemic, a new and contagious variant has emerged, and the risk of transmission continues to be high within the State of Minnesota, and the jury and staff involved in the above-mentioned trial should not be unduly exposed to health risks from additional exposure to the COVID-19 virus from visitors to the courthouse who are not integral to the trial,

WHEREAS the Court has consulted with the United States Marshal's Service and the General Services Administration in making this decision,

WHEREAS the Facility Security Committee for the St. Paul federal courthouse, acting pursuant to Presidential Executive Order 12977 and the Interagency Security Committee's recommendation; and Chief Judge of the District of Minnesota, acting pursuant to the inherent power of the Court, authority delegated by the Director of the Administrative Office, statutory authority, and Judicial Conference and circuit council policies; have the authority

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KATE M. FOGARTY
JUDGMENT ENTD
DEPUTY CLERK JK

to impose temporary measures to ensure the safety and security of the St. Paul federal courthouse and its occupants,

NOW THEREFORE, in order to protect the public health and security of Court personnel, the bar, the public, and to ensure due process, **IT IS HEREBY ORDERED** that:

From 12:00 a.m. on Thursday, January 20, 2022, through 11:59 p.m. on the date the case is completed, the verdict is accepted, and the jurors and parties are excused,

1. Security will only permit access to the United States Courthouse located in St. Paul, Minnesota, to the following persons, unless otherwise ordered by the Court:

Participants in the jury trial *United States v. Thao*, Criminal Case No. 21-108 (PAM/TNL)

Members of the public and media entering the courthouse in order to observe the trial of *United States v. Thao*, Criminal Case No. 21-108 (PAM/TNL).

2. No other court proceeding will occur in the St. Paul federal courthouse, and no court personnel or member of the public not involved in the jury trial of *United States v. Thao*, Criminal Case No. 21-108 (PAM/TNL), shall be permitted access to the St. Paul federal courthouse, unless express permission is granted by me or the Clerk of Court.
3. The Clerk's Office intake desk in St. Paul is closed to the public. The Clerk's Office remains open to assist attorneys and the public by telephone, email, and online chat from 8:00 a.m.-4:30 p.m., Monday-Friday. The Clerk's Office intake desks in Minneapolis, Duluth, and Fergus Falls remain open to the public.

Anyone attempting to enter in violation of this Order will be denied entry by a Court Security Officer.

Dated: January 5, 2022

Time: 10:00 a.m.

at Minneapolis, Minnesota.



JOHN R. TUNHEIM
Chief Judge
United States District Court