

UNITED STATES COURT OF APPEALS FOR THE THIRD CIRCUIT

**Order of the Chief Circuit Judge Regarding the Operations of the Court of
Appeals in the Absence of an Appropriation or Continuing Resolution
Enacted by the United States Congress and Signed by the President**

The United States Courts are an independent, national judiciary that provide fair and impartial justice under the Constitution and laws of the United States. The federal courts, including the Court of Appeals for the Third Circuit, are dedicated to delivering justice to the public and court users and to safeguarding constitutional rights and liberties in a timely, effective, and prompt manner.

An appropriation or continuing resolution funding the operations of the United States Courts was not passed by Congress and signed by the President by midnight September 30, 2025. The Court adopts the following plan to fulfill its mission during any period when there is an absence of an appropriation or continuing resolution funding judiciary operations. Accordingly, this Order governing operations in the absence of appropriations is in effect until superseded by an appropriation or continuing resolution enacted by the United States Congress and signed by the President.

During any period when the judiciary is able to sustain paid operations, Court operations will continue, including scheduled hearings and arguments, and employees will report to work or continue with approved leave plans as normal.

When such funds are no longer available, the Court will reduce operations as required by the Anti-Deficiency Act, 31 U.S.C. §§ 1341, 1342. Only activities that are necessary to support the exercise of the Court's constitutional duty to hear and resolve cases, to address emergency circumstances necessary for the safety of human life and the protection of property, and to perform activities otherwise authorized by law, either expressly or by implication, will be performed. As a result of this reduction in operations, some Court services will be delayed, but the Court will continue to operate consistent with its constitutional mandate.

1. Travel for the Court of Appeals, except as approved by the Chief Circuit Judge, will be avoided. All training activity will be suspended.

2. No new paid personnel will be hired and no new expenditures of funds shall be made by the Court of Appeals without the consent of the Chief Circuit Judge.

3. This Order supersedes the provisions of the Chief Judge's order dated October 10, 2013, regarding Court operations during a lapse in appropriation.

The Judges of the Court of Appeals express their appreciation for the outstanding and dedicated manner in which the employees and staff of the Court discharge their responsibilities.

SO ORDERED:

/s/ Michael A. Chagares
Chief Judge

Dated: October 1, 2025
 Philadelphia, Pennsylvania