
THE UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT
DISTRICT OF UTAH

IN THE MATTER OF:

THE LAPSE OF APPROPRIATIONS
FOR THE DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE
AND MAJORITY OF FEDERAL AGENCIES

GENERAL ORDER

25-005

At midnight on September 30, 2025, the appropriations act that had been funding the Department of Justice expired and appropriations to the Department lapsed. The same is true for most other Executive agencies, including the Social Security Administration's Office of General Counsel, which is responsible for litigating cases filed against SSA under 42 U.S.C. § 405(g). It is unknown when funding will be restored by Congress.

Absent appropriations, Department of Justice Attorneys, Assistant U.S. Attorneys, and employees of the Department of Justice and the United States Attorney's Office for the District of Utah are prohibited from working, even on a voluntary basis, except in very limited circumstances, including "emergencies involving the safety of human life or the protection of property." 31 U.S.C. § 1342. All Social Security

Administration Attorneys handling cases filed under 42 U.S.C. § 405(g) are also prohibited from working during a lapse in appropriations.

As a result, on October 1, 2025, Assistant U.S. Attorneys and support staff assigned to the Civil Division of the U.S. Attorney's Office, funded by direct appropriations, will be in furlough status. Furlough means the placing of an employee in a temporary status without duties because of lack of work or funds or other nondisciplinary reasons. 5 U.S.C. § 7511(a)(5). If the funding situation does not change, some Assistant U.S. Attorneys may be called back from furlough status, but only on a critical-need basis to protect life or property.

The United States Attorney's Office has sought a stay of all civil cases within the District of Utah in which the United States or an agency, corporation, officer, or employee of the United States is a party until Congress restores appropriations to the Department of Justice, including all Social Security cases. This request, however, does not extend to matters pending in this District involving immigration and emergency matters.

Further, the United States Attorney's Office has requested that the Court extend all current deadlines commensurate with the duration of the lapse in appropriations, plus seven days. This includes but is not limited to the automatic deadlines imposed on all matters governed by the Supplemental Rules for Social Security Actions Under Section 42 U.S.C. § 405(g).

Based on the number of cases involved, consulting all parties to all litigation in which the United States, or an agency, corporation, officer or employee of the United States is a party, is impracticable. Likewise, requesting individual extensions of time or

stays in cases, at a time when U.S. Attorney's Office personnel may not lawfully work, is impracticable.

It is hereby ordered that, to preserve the status quo until restoration of funding, all civil cases within the District of Utah in which the United States or an agency, corporation, officer, or employee, deemed or otherwise, of the United States is a party and all civil cases within the District of Utah in which the United States Attorney's Office or the Department of Justice is counsel of record are stayed unless otherwise ordered by the assigned district judge. **This Order does not affect immigration or other emergency civil matters.**

Unless otherwise ordered by the assigned judge, all deadlines, due dates, or cut-off dates are extended for a period commensurate with the duration of the lapse in appropriations, plus seven days. And civil hearings involving the United States or an agency, corporation, officer, or employee, deemed or otherwise, of the United States are vacated and will be reset at a time after the lapse in appropriations.

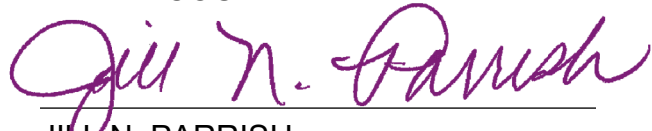
This Order does not alter, vacate, or stay any obligation of individuals to pay amounts previously lawfully determined to be owed to the United States or to an agency or office of the United States.

This Order does not prohibit, in any manner, the ability of parties to file claims or commence actions against the United States. However, except for immigration or other emergency civil matters, the cases or matters commenced while there is a lapse in appropriations will be immediately stayed, pending restoration of appropriations unless otherwise ordered by the assigned district judge.

The United States Attorney's Office shall notify the Court when Congress restores appropriations to the Department of Justice, and the Court will enter additional instructions and guidance at that time.

SO ORDERED this 2nd day of October 2025

BY THE COURT:

A handwritten signature in purple ink, reading "Jill N. Parrish", is written over a horizontal line.

JILL N. PARRISH
CHIEF UNITED STATES DISTRICT JUDGE