

IN THE UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT  
FOR THE DISTRICT OF NEBRASKA

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA,

Plaintiff,

vs.

AUSTIN M. THOMAS,

Defendant.

8:20CR139

ORDER

Before the court is the Government's Motion for Alternative Victim Notification pursuant to 18 U.S.C. § 3771(d)(2), filed June 30, 2020. The government seeks an order from the court approving the use of alternate means to provide notice to the large number of crime victims in this case. Under 18 U.S.C. § 3771(a)(2), crime victims have a right to "reasonable, accurate, and timely notice" of public court proceedings. In this case, the victims are individuals who had deposited mail for collection by the United States Postal Service but whose mail did not reach the intended recipients. The United States Attorney's Office has identified approximately 216 victims requiring notification.

Under such circumstances, 18 U.S.C. § 3771(a)(2) of the Crimes Victims' Rights Act gives the court the authority to "fashion a reasonable procedure to give effect to this chapter that does not unduly complicate or prolong the proceedings." The government seeks authorization to provide an alternate means to provide notice to the large number of crime victims in this case. In its motion, the government sets out its proposed actions to comply with 18 U.S.C. § 3771. The court finds the proposal meritorious and **grants** the government's motion.

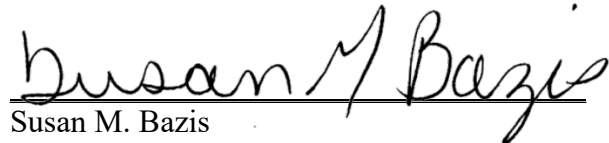
Therefore, the court finds that: (1) the "multiple victim" provisions of 18 U.S.C. § 3771(d)(2) apply to the above entitled and numbered cause; (2) it is impractical, because of the

number of victims, for the government and the court to notify all victims on an individual basis without unduly complicating or prolonging the proceedings; and (3) the proposal set forth in the government's motion ([Filing No. 7](#)) is a "reasonable procedure" to give effect to the provisions of 18 U.S.C. § 3771.

Accordingly, it is **ordered** that the government is authorized to comply with the provisions of 18 U.S.C. § 3771(a)(2) in the above entitled and numbered cause by providing notice of the court proceedings as provided in the proposal set forth in its motion ([Filing No. 7](#)).

DATED this 30<sup>th</sup> day of June, 2020.

BY THE COURT:

A handwritten signature in black ink, reading "Susan M. Bazis", written over a horizontal line.

Susan M. Bazis  
UNITED STATES MAGISTRATE JUDGE