

BEFORE THE PRESIDING DISCIPLINARY JUDGE

In the Matter of:

**COURT LIMITATIONS
DURING A PUBLIC HEALTH
EMERGENCY**

**ADMINISTRATIVE ORDER
No. 2020-08**

FILED August 27, 2020

The Arizona Supreme Court has continued to monitor the outbreak of COVID-19 and responsibly issued by administrative order various limitations of certain court operations during a public health emergency. These included the authorization of this judge to use technologies to eliminate or limit in-person contact in the conduct of court business. By Administrative Order 2020-143, the Chief Justice ordered that this court may continue to transition to in person hearings and issue this administrative order. This order supersedes Administrative Order No. 2020-07.

IT IS ORDERED that until further order of the Presiding Disciplinary Judge that all in-person hearings shall be limited to the parties, their attorneys, and court personnel except for good cause shown. Except for a party, all witnesses shall appear telephonically. Exceptions may be made to permit individuals to appear at the hearing upon written request with good cause.

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that social distancing standards of not less than six (6) feet shall apply. All individuals shall wear masks or face coverings while

in the court house. All individuals shall continue to wear masks or face coverings in the hearing room and during hearings except as authorized by this judge.

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that the parties, including their attorneys and/or any individual permitted to appear in any court proceedings shall notify the disciplinary clerk prior to appearing at the courthouse of any COVID-19 diagnosis, symptoms, or exposure notifications by public health authorities and request alternative arrangements to participate.

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that individuals who fail the screening protocol from entry to the courthouse are excluded from the hearing but may be permitted to appear telephonically upon request. Any individuals so excluded shall immediately contact the disciplinary clerk by telephone call and by email.

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED reaffirming Administrative Order No. 2020-05 which provides that until further order of the Presiding Disciplinary Judge that all filings with the disciplinary clerk shall be done by attachments to emails or unless otherwise authorized in writing by the Disciplinary Clerk. The filings may be done in PDF or Word format. The employment of a typed signature by a party shall be considered an original signature. *Bishop v. Norell*, 88 Ariz. 148 (1960). Such documents shall be deemed “filed” on the day and time the email is delivered to officepdj@courts.az.gov, provided it is delivered prior to 5:00 p.m. Documents

delivered after 5:00 p.m. shall be deemed filed the following day. Documents sent to any other email address shall not be deemed filed.

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED authorizing any party to move to continue or make accommodations for attorneys, parties, victims, or witnesses who are at a high risk of illness from COVID-19 or who report any COVID-19 diagnosis, symptoms, or exposure notification by public health authorities.

DATED this 27th day of August 2020.

William J. O'Neil

William J. O'Neil, Presiding Disciplinary Judge

COPY of the foregoing e-mailed/mailed on this 27th day of August 2020, to:

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by: BEnsign