

**ADMINISTRATIVE ORDER REGARDING REMOTE PROCEEDINGS**  
**EFFECTIVE THROUGH DECEMBER 31, 2020**

On November 12, 2020, Chief Judge Barbera issued the *Fifth Administrative Order Restricting Statewide Judiciary Operations Due to the COVID-19 Emergency*. Section (h) of order returns District Court operations to those functions identified in Phase III of the Exhibit through December 31, 2020.

Section (i) of the November 12, 2020 order authorizes and encourages remote proceedings to the greatest extent possible, using communication platforms consistent with the previously approved Court of Appeals Administrative Orders authorizing and implementing remote proceedings.

To reduce the number of individuals appearing on site and to facilitate safe working conditions for court staff and court customers, certain hearings must be conducted remotely.

Pursuant to the authority granted in Maryland Courts and Judicial Proceedings Code Ann., Section 1-607, and the November 12, 2020 *Fifth Administrative Order* following protocols shall be implemented in the Sixth District Court **through December 31, 2020**:

1. All large claim civil trials shall be conducted remotely.
2. All civil motions shall be conducted remotely.
3. Final peace, protective, and extreme risk protective orders may be conducted remotely, in hybrid manner, or on-site.
4. Initial petitions for peace, protective, and extreme risk protective orders shall be conducted in person, on site.
5. Temporary peace, protective, and extreme risk protective orders following a commissioner's issuance of an interim order may be conducted remotely, in hybrid manner, or on-site.
6. Criminal proceedings may be conducted remotely or in hybrid manner by motion.
7. Incarcerated persons' ability to appear may be limited by the ability to safely transport such individuals.

This order is for a limited period and should sunset after December 31, 2020. For this time period only, this order supersedes previous Administrative Orders describing methods of remote proceedings which were issued pursuant to the scope of Judiciary operations in Phases IV and V.

It is so ordered this 18<sup>th</sup> day of November, 2020

  
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Sherri D. Koch, Administrative Judge, District Six