

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF THE TWENTY-SECOND JUDICIAL CIRCUIT  
McHENRY COUNTY, ILLINOIS

FILED

DEC - 1 2020

KATHERINE M. KEEFE  
McHENRY CTY. CIR. CLK.

IN RE THE MATTER OF JUVENILE )  
COURT PROCEEDINGS, IN RESPONSE )  
TO THE ONGOING AND INTENSIFYING )  
COVID-19 PANDEMIC AND APPEARING )  
IN COURT REMOTELY VIA ZOOM )  
)

Juvenile Division  
Standing Order 2020-06

---

**IT IS HEREBY ORDERED** that, in response to the ongoing and intensifying COVID-19 pandemic and in accordance with the Illinois Supreme Court Order filed under M.R. 30370, executed on May 20, 2020 and the related Administrative Orders of the 22<sup>nd</sup> Judicial Circuit, the Juvenile Division hereby implements the following procedures related to juvenile delinquency and juvenile abuse, neglect and dependency cases. These procedures will remain in effect until further Order of Court. Standing Order 2020-05 remains in full force and effect with the exception of paragraph 11 "In-Person Parent-Child Visitation." Standing Orders 2020-01 through 2020-04 are hereby vacated.

**JUVENILE DELINQUENCY**

1. **Juvenile Delinquency Matters Scheduled for Trial/Adjudicatory Hearing.** Beginning December 1, 2020 trials/adjudicatory hearings in juvenile delinquency are suspended until further order of the Court. Matters currently set for trial/adjudicatory hearing will be heard as scheduled, and continued by the Court to a future date for status and re-setting of the trial/hearing.
2. **All Remaining Juvenile Delinquency Proceedings.** All remaining juvenile delinquency matters will proceed as scheduled. The Court in its discretion, retains the right to recess and/or suspend any juvenile delinquency proceedings, if the Court determines factors related to the COVID-19 Pandemic necessitate continuing the proceeding for the safety of all individuals involved.

3. **Remote Court Appearance via Zoom.** All juvenile delinquency court proceedings are confidential and closed to the public pursuant to the Juvenile Court Act of 1987, 705 ILCS 405/1-8. Consequently, any individual permitted to remotely appear in Court via Zoom agrees they will not remotely appear from any public place or utilize any unsecured public Wi-Fi network to remotely appear and acknowledges that the unauthorized disclosure of the confidential Zoom meeting ID and/or log-on information to any individual, by or through third party, is strictly prohibited. Individuals found to be in violation, can be found guilty of a misdemeanor, in addition to being subject to the contempt powers of the Court.

In response to the ongoing and intensifying COVID-19 Pandemic, and the potential for remote court attendance via Zoom, the following protocols and procedures are hereby implemented:

- a. **Detention Hearings and Minors Held in Detention.** At the initial detention hearing and subsequently scheduled Court dates where the minor remains in detention, the minor may appear remotely from the detention facility where they are situated. The minor's parents and/or guardian and attorney of record (if any), must physically appear in Court for the detention hearing, as scheduled.
- b. **McHenry County Court Services: Juvenile Division.** Juvenile Court Services Supervisors and responsible Probation Officers on pending juvenile delinquency matters shall be permitted to appear remotely via Zoom at all juvenile delinquency proceedings in accordance with the 22<sup>nd</sup> Judicial Circuit's "Admonishments for Remote Appearance via Zoom in Juvenile Court Proceedings", (attached hereto and incorporated herein, as if fully recited verbatim herein as Exhibit "A"), unless notified by the Court their physical appearance is required.
- c. **Attorneys of Record in Juvenile Delinquency Proceedings.** On a case by case basis and depending on the nature of the instant proceeding, at the Court's discretion, attorneys of record may be permitted to appear remotely via Zoom, in accordance with the "Admonishments for Remote Appearance via Zoom in

Juvenile Court Proceedings”. If allowed, the attorney of record will be provided the confidential Zoom access information for their exclusive use.

- d. **Minor’s Parent’s and/or Guardians.** On a case by case basis and depending on the nature of the instant proceeding, at the Court’s discretion, the minor’s parents and/or guardians may be granted leave of Court to appear remotely via Zoom, in accordance with the “Admonishments for Remote Appearance via Zoom in Juvenile Court Proceedings”. If allowed, the minor’s parents and/or guardians may be provided the Zoom access information for their exclusive use.
- e. **Necessary Parties to the Proceeding.** On a case by case basis and depending on the nature of the instant proceeding, at the Court’s discretion, a necessary party may be allowed to appear remotely via Zoom, in accordance with the “Admonishments for Remote Appearance via Zoom in Juvenile Court Proceedings”. If allowed, the necessary party will be provided the Zoom access information for their exclusive use.

#### **JUVENILE ABUSE NEGLECT AND/OR DEPENDENCY**

1. **Juvenile Abuse, Neglect and/or Dependency Matters Scheduled for Adjudicatory or Termination Hearings.** Beginning December 1, 2020 adjudicatory and termination hearings in juvenile abuse, neglect and/or dependency proceedings are hereby suspended until further Order of Court. Matters currently set for adjudicatory or termination hearing will be heard as scheduled and continued by the Court to a future date for status and re-setting of the trial/hearing.
2. **All Remaining Juvenile Abuse, Neglect and/or Dependency Proceedings.** All remaining juvenile abuse, neglect and/or dependency matters will proceed as scheduled. The Court in its discretion, retains the right to recess and/or suspend any juvenile abuse, neglect and/or dependency proceeding(s), if the Court determines factors related to the COVID-19 pandemic necessitate continuing the proceeding for the safety of all individuals involved.
3. **Remote Court Appearance via Zoom.** All juvenile abuse, neglect and/or dependency court proceedings and records are confidential and closed to the public pursuant to the

Juvenile Court Act of 1987, 705 ILCS 405/1-8, and the Abused and Neglected Child Reporting Act, 325 ILCS 5/11. Consequently, any individual permitted to remotely appear in Court via Zoom agrees they will not remotely appear from any public place or utilize any unsecured public Wi-Fi network to remotely appear and acknowledges that the unauthorized disclosure of the confidential Zoom meeting ID and/or log-on information to any individual, by or through third party, is strictly prohibited. Individuals found to be in violation, can be found guilty of a misdemeanor, in addition to being subject to the contempt powers of the Court.

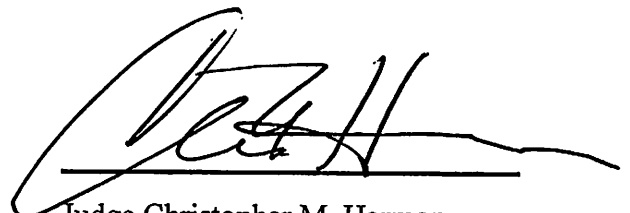
In response to the ongoing and intensifying COVID-19 Pandemic, and the potential for remote court attendance via Zoom, the following protocols and procedures are hereby implemented:

- a. **Shelter-Care Hearings.** At initial shelter-care hearings, the Court in its discretion, may allow DCFS/POS and necessary witnesses to appear and testify remotely, in accordance with the 22<sup>nd</sup> Judicial Circuit's "Admonishments for Remote Appearance via Zoom in Juvenile Court Proceedings", unless notified by the Court their physical appearance is required.
- b. **McHenry County CASA.** CASA Advocate Managers and/or CASA Advocates on all pending juvenile abuse, neglect and/or dependency matters in which they have been appointed, shall be permitted to appear remotely via Zoom in accordance with the 22<sup>nd</sup> Judicial Circuit's "Admonishments for Remote Appearance via Zoom in Juvenile Court Proceedings", unless notified by the Court their physical appearance is required.
- c. **Attorneys of Record and Guardians ad Litem.** In general, attorneys of record and GAL's are required to personally appear on all scheduled Court dates. Under certain circumstances, and on a case by case basis, depending on the nature of the instant proceeding, at the Court's discretion, attorneys of record and GALs may be permitted to appear remotely via Zoom, in accordance with the "Admonishments for Remote Appearance via Zoom in Juvenile Court

Proceedings”. If allowed, the attorney of record and/or GAL will be provided the Zoom access information for their exclusive use.

- d. **DCFS/POS Caseworkers.** On a case by case basis and depending on the nature of the instant proceeding, at the Court’s discretion, the DCFS/POS caseworker assigned to a specific case or cases may be permitted to appear remotely via Zoom, in accordance with the “Admonishments for Remote Appearance via Zoom in Juvenile Court Proceedings”, provided the caseworker is in compliance with this Court’s Standing Order 2020-05, paragraph 10 “Filing of Reports”. If allowed, the DCFS/POS caseworker will be provided the Zoom access information for their exclusive use.
- e. **Respondent-Minors, Parents and/or Guardians.** On a case by case basis and depending on the nature of the instant proceeding, at the Court’s discretion, the respondent-minors, parents and/or guardians may be permitted to appear remotely via Zoom, in accordance with the “Admonishments for Remote Appearance via Zoom in Juvenile Court Proceedings”. If allowed, the respondent-minors, parents and/or guardians will be provided the Zoom access information for their exclusive use.

Dated: DECEMBER 1, 2020



Judge Christopher M. Harmon  
Presiding Judge, Family Division,  
Assigned to Juvenile Court

**ADMONISHMENTS FOR REMOTE APPEARANCE IN JUVENILE COURT  
PROCEEDINGS IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF THE 22<sup>ND</sup> JUDICIAL CIRCUIT,  
McHENRY COUNTY, STATE OF ILLINOIS**

1. Pursuant to the Illinois Juvenile Court Act of 1987, 705 ILCS 405/1-8 et al, and the Abused and Neglected Child Reporting Act, 325 ILCS 5/11, juvenile court proceedings are closed to the public and strictly confidential. Unauthorized disclosure is strictly prohibited. Individuals found to be in violation, can be found guilty of a misdemeanor, in addition to being subject to the contempt powers of the Court. The remote court proceedings by video teleconferencing with Zoom are an extension of the physical courtroom. Counsel and all case participants should behave as if they were physically present in the courtroom. **Any individual permitted to remotely appear in Court using “Juvenile Courtroom 101 Remote Appearance via Zoom”, agrees they will not remotely appear from any public place or utilize any unsecured public Wi-Fi network to remotely appear and acknowledges that the unauthorized disclosure of the confidential Zoom meeting ID and/or log-on information to any individual, by or through third party, is strictly prohibited. The Court maintains the only official record of the proceedings. Recording the proceeding is strictly prohibited by anyone except the Official Court Reporter or the Court through the approved recording system. Beware aware that any individual found to be in violation of these rules, could be subject to criminal prosecution and/or criminal contempt of Court proceedings.**
  
2. Please mute yourself when you are not speaking. The microphone icon can be used to mute or unmute. Please take a moment to locate that microphone. Right now, the Court has muted everyone. When the case(s) are called to be heard, you will have the ability to unmute yourself to speak.

3. It is important that only one person speak at a time. Even in normal conversation, it is difficult to hear two people at once. In Zoom, multiple speakers generally means gaps of silence or garbled noise.
4. When the Court places you back to the Waiting Room, please be sure the printed name on the screen that identifies you during the proceeding is your legal name. To change the name that appears on your screen, right click on that name, select Rename, and type the appropriate legal name. This is the only way I have of knowing who you are and when I should bring you into the courtroom. Consider adding your firm name or some other identifying information.
5. If you are disconnected from the Zoom proceeding and want to re-join, you can use the same confidential Zoom meeting ID provided.

**Additional Admonishments for Hearings and Testifying**

6. You may be asked to verify your identity during this remote court appearance. Please have a state-issued form of identification ready to share with the Court.
7. You are required to participate in this court appearance without the aid of others who may be off camera. By using the video teleconference to make a court appearance, you are representing to the Court that you are participating personally, without the aid of other persons, resources, (i.e. documents or written material of any kind) and/or devices.
8. The Court has the right to terminate this remote proceeding if the video experience, audio experience or any other condition, including the ability or willingness of participants to abide by Court policies, orders and directives is deemed unacceptable.
9. You must have sufficient and secure: LAN; Wi-Fi; or substantial LTE connection to ensure a quality video teleconference. **(Exhibit "A")**