

ADMINISTRATIVE ORDER OF THE  
CHIEF ADMINISTRATIVE JUDGE OF THE COURTS

Pursuant to the authority vested in me, and at the direction of the Chief Judge, I hereby promulgate, effective April 13, 2020, the following additional procedures and protocols to mitigate the effects of the COVID-19 outbreak upon the users, visitors, staff, and judicial officers of the Unified Court System.

1. In addition to essential court functions as set forth in AO/78/20, trial courts will address the following matters through remote or virtual court operations and offices:

- Conferencing Pending Cases: Courts will review their docket of pending cases, assess matters that can be advanced or resolved through remote court conferencing, and schedule and hold conferences in such matters upon its own initiative, and where appropriate at the request of parties.

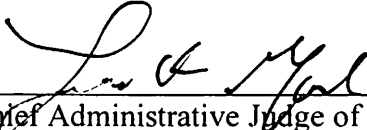
- Deciding Fully Submitted Motions: Courts will decide fully submitted motions in pending cases.

- Discovery and Other Ad Hoc Conferences: Courts will maintain availability during normal court hours to resolve ad hoc discovery disputes and similar matters not requiring the filing of papers.

2. Video Technology: Video teleconferences conducted by the court, or with court participation, will be administered exclusively through Skype for Business.

3. No New Filings in Nonessential Matters: No new nonessential matters may be filed until further notice; nor may additional papers be filed by parties in pending nonessential matters. The court shall file such orders in essential and nonessential matters as it deems appropriate.

Provisions of prior administrative orders inconsistent with this order shall be superseded by this order.

  
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Chief Administrative Judge of the Courts

Dated: April 8, 2020

AO/85/20