

STATE OF RHODE ISLAND AND PROVIDENCE PLANTATIONS

NEWPORT, SC.

SUPERIOR COURT

**SCHEDULING PROTOCOL ORDER
Re: CIVIL CALENDARS**

In accordance with the Administrative Order 2020-08 issued on August 28, 2020, by the Presiding Justice, the Court issues the following protocols regarding the scheduling of motions and hearings in Newport County.

MOTION CALENDAR

NEW MOTIONS - All motions filed on or after the effective date of this protocol will be conducted remotely using WebEx on the date that the Motion calendar would normally occur. Counsel shall be responsible for putting the appropriate hearing date on the motion. All time requirements currently in place remain applicable. Scheduled times may be staggered in order to minimize counsels' inconvenience.

PENDING NON-DISPOSITIVE MOTIONS – All presently pending non-dispositive motions that have been filed or scheduled to be heard subsequent to March 16, 2020 but prior to the effective date of this order and remain unresolved may be assigned a hearing date by submitting a completed Covid-19 Hearing/Conference Request form to the clerk by electronic mail in accordance with the amended protocol effective September 9, 2020.

DISPOSITIVE MOTION CALENDAR

All Dispositive motions will be conducted remotely on the first Tuesday of every month, unless Monday is a holiday, then the Dispositive motions will be heard on the first Wednesday of that month. Hearing dates shall be obtained through the Clerk's office. All requirements contained in administrative order currently in place remain applicable. Scheduled times may be staggered to minimize counsels' inconvenience.

FORMAL AND SPECIAL CAUSE CALENDAR

The Formal and Special Cause calendar will be conducted weekly on Fridays. Motions/hearings will be conducted remotely when possible. All motions/hearings shall be scheduled through the Clerk's office. Any in-person hearings will be staggered to comply with appropriate distancing and other safety protocols.

IN-PERSON MOTIONS AND HEARINGS

All matters involving in-person motions/hearings shall be scheduled through the Clerk's office to ensure compliance with appropriate distancing and other safety protocols. All cases involving pro-se litigants shall require in-person hearings unless otherwise approved by the Court. Emergency matters will be scheduled through the Clerk's office in order to ensure compliance with appropriate distancing and safety protocols. In the event that more than one in-person hearing is scheduled for the same date, they will be appropriately staggered to ensure proper distancing and the safety of all participants and court personnel.

The requirements set forth in the current amended administrative order entered on January 24, 2017 for Newport County remain in effect.

ENTERED:

/s/

Associate Justice Brian VanCouyghen
September 11, 2020

BY ORDER:

/s/

Deputy Clerk I
September 11, 2020