

**STATE OF RHODE ISLAND**

**PROVIDENCE, SC**

**WORKERS' COMPENSATION COURT**

NO. 2022-01

**ADMINISTRATIVE ORDER**

On January 10, 2022, due to an increase in COVID-19 cases, the Workers' Compensation Court shall take the following actions until further notice or until such time a new administrative order is issued.

1. The Court will hear its Pretrial Calendar and its formal special cause calendar either telephonically or in-person. Attorneys who desire to have their pretrial cases heard telephonically, must contact the clerk of the judge hearing pretrial cases within 48 hours prior to the scheduled case. In-person pretrial conferences will take priority for hearing. The telephonic conferences will take place after in-person conferences are concluded.
2. The Court will hear commutations and denials and dismissals remotely, either telephonically or by video conference. In lieu of the employees in-person testimony, parties shall file an employee affidavit or interrogatories in which the employee agrees to said telephonic or video hearing. All settlements will be heard on the record with a stenographer present. All exhibits must be e-filed in advance of said hearing. Employees or employers may also take part in the telephonic or video hearing.
3. The Court will allow the electronic filing of stipulations, consent decrees and final decrees disposing of cases. In doing so, the Court insists that Rule 7E of Article X be adhered to.
4. By agreement of the parties, the Court will hear mediations remotely.

Entered as an Order of this Court, this **6<sup>th</sup> day of January, 2022.**

ENTER:

\_\_\_\_\_/s/\_\_\_\_\_  
Robert M. Ferrieri  
Chief Judge

PER ORDER:

\_\_\_\_\_/s/\_\_\_\_\_  
Nicholas DiFilippo  
Administrator