

Purpose of this Document

The Superior Court of Pennsylvania is conducting remote oral arguments through the use of Cisco Webex Events software. This is true for both video and audio arguments. When your case was listed for oral argument by way of telephone or video conference, the Prothonotary's office provided instructions for joining the Webex Event. This document discusses the procedures of the Court for these argument sessions.

Webex Events

The "Webex Events" platform is most similar to a seminar or CLE-type presentation. There is an audience that can listen, but not participate. There are panelists that can speak and be heard, and be seen when video is used.

The Superior Court endeavored to replicate the courtroom experience as directly as possible on this platform. Accordingly, if you join the session mid-day, you will be met by ongoing argument in other cases. If court has not yet begun, or is in recess, there will be very little to see or hear.

Your Argument

When you first enter the event, you are designated an "attendee"—an audience member. You will not be able to speak, be heard, or be seen via video, if applicable. Court staff will see your name on a list of attendees and note your arrival behind the scenes.

When your case is called, court staff will find your name in the list of attendees. They will unmute your audio, and the court crier will confirm your attendance.

If your session includes the use of video, court staff will promote you to the role of "panelist," which allows you to enable your camera and appear before the court.

When your case is called, check to make sure your audio and video (if applicable) are enabled and that you are not muted. Look for the microphone and video camera icons on your screen. Before you proceed with argument, allow the court crier to confirm that you can hear the court. The crier will confirm to you that you can be heard and seen, if applicable.

If the panel has elected to receive argument by video, be aware that you may appear on YouTube, as the argument will be livestreamed to satisfy the constitutional requirement of open courts.

Alternative Accommodations

If you do not have access to a computer, please contact the respective district office for available accommodations.

Philadelphia Office Benjamin Kohler, Esq., Deputy Prothonotary 215-560-5800	Harrisburg Office Jennifer Traxler, Esq., Deputy Prothonotary 717-772-1294	Pittsburgh Office Bobbi Jo Wagner, Esq., Deputy Prothonotary 412-565-7592
--	---	--