



Superior Court of Pennsylvania

OFFICE OF THE PROTHONOTARY

AMENDED PROTOCOLS FOR IN-PERSON ARGUMENTS

Amended October 27, 2022

Upon consideration of the most recent public health guidance as outlined below, and with the agreement of the Superior Court Commissioned Judges, the Superior Court of Pennsylvania's Protocols for In-Person Arguments are AMENDED as follows:

- Effective April 25, 2022, the wearing of masks or face coverings will no longer be required when entering a courtroom where the Superior Court is holding session, unless otherwise required by the facility in which the session is held.
- The restrictions on and limitation of persons who may be present in the courtroom are no longer in effect. Although masks are not required, all persons are permitted and encouraged to wear a mask or face covering in the courtroom and/or practice social-distancing if they wish to do so. All are asked to respect the independent health decisions of parties and attendees in this regard. Although visitors who wish to wear a mask are expected to supply their own, the Court will continue to make masks available in the courtroom.

- The Panel presiding over the session retains the discretion to require masks or social-distancing in the courtroom, as they see fit. Parties to the cases being heard at session shall be advised if masks or face coverings are required.
- Any Superior Court argument sessions held in a county outside of Philadelphia, Dauphin, or Allegheny shall be subject to the provisions above, unless otherwise announced.
- The President Judge of the Superior Court of Pennsylvania will continue to monitor conditions with regard to COVID-19 in Pennsylvania, including COVID-19 Community Levels in all counties and COVID-19 response updates in individual counties. The Superior Court of Pennsylvania will amend these Protocols as circumstances require.
- All forms, attestations, and certifications previously required by the original COVID-19 Protocols are rescinded and no longer required, unless specifically ordered by the presiding Panel or in reference to the Superior Court Motion for Leave to Appear Remotely at Argument, as stated below.
- Motions for Leave to Appear Remotely shall still be entertained by the presiding Panel only under emergency circumstances on motion of counsel. **HOWEVER**, counsel or self-represented litigants experiencing any COVID-19-related symptoms or who are required to quarantine should advise the appropriate Superior Court Prothonotary's Office as soon as possible of the inability to attend in-person argument. In this event,

they must also promptly file a Motion for Leave to Appear Remotely at Argument, seeking leave to have the case heard remotely. No confidential medical information is necessary.

- Out of respect for the time and resources expended by the Court and the parties in preparation for oral argument, every attempt will be made to proceed with the argument as scheduled.

Please use the following contact information for the three regional offices of the Superior Court's Prothonotary Office:

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