



COURTS, CRIME VICTIMS, AND OFFICE OF ADMINISTRATIVE HEARINGS As of May 22, 2020

COURT OPERATIONS

Q. Is DC Superior Court still open? How do I access court services?

A. Yes, but the court is generally only conducting emergency hearings, criminal arraignments, certain juvenile, neglect and mental health hearings, marriages, uncontested divorces, and TPO hearings. Most other matters are being rescheduled. Hearings are held remotely via WebEx app. Pleadings must be filed online at dc.casefilexpress.com/Login.aspx. For help, go to dccourts.gov/coronavirus or call 202-879-1400.

Q. I am supposed to serve a party in a Domestic Relations (DRB) case but I can't get it done in the usual way because of the public health emergency and social distancing requirements. What can I do?

A. You can now serve a party through electronic means by sending a text message or e-mail. You will need to show the judge in your case that the text message or e-mail you sent "was reasonably calculated to give actual notice" so the more proof you have that the account is actively used by the person you are trying to serve, the better.

Q. What about court deadlines and hearing dates?

A. With limited exceptions, all deadlines and time limits in statutes (including statute of limitations), court rules, and standing and other orders issued by the court that would otherwise expire during the public health emergency are suspended, tolled and extended.

- **For Domestic Violence matters:** all existing TPO expiration dates will be extended to a future date; all existing CPO expiration dates will be extended to June 19 unless otherwise ordered by the court; all existing CPOs that would have expired prior to June 19, 2020 will expire on that date; and all CPO hearings will be continued.
- **For Domestic Relations matters:** all in-person hearings and trial dates set for June 1 through June 19, 2020 are VACATED and will be rescheduled, EXCEPT for uncontested divorces or matters set for remote hearings in an order dated on or after May 11, 2020. You will still have to comply with procedural rules, including filing motions and oppositions, unless the judge in your case tells you otherwise. All deadlines in an order in your case dated on or after March 20, 2020 will stand; deadlines in orders issued before March 20, 2020 are extended by 90 days.

OFFICE OF ADMINISTRATIVE HEARINGS

Q. Can I get an administrative fair hearing if I have been denied benefits, like TANF, SNAP or unemployment compensation?

A. Yes, administrative hearings are being held by telephone for public benefits or unemployment insurance if benefits or services have been denied, terminated, or reduced. For more information about Public Benefits cases, call (202) 671-0055. For more information about Unemployment Insurance Benefits cases, call (202) 442-8175. For all other cases, call (202) 442-9094, or email the Office at oah.filing@dc.gov.

CRIME VICTIMS' COMPENSATION FUND

Q. Can I apply for and receive crime victims' compensation funds?

A. All applications for crime victims' compensation funds are processed remotely. New applications can be emailed to: CVCPApplications@DCSC.gov or completed online at dccourts.gov/sites/default/files/CVCPApplicationMarch2020.pdf. For help, contact the office at 202-879-4216 or CVCPOffice@dcsc.gov.