

**NOTICE REGARDING 8th JD DR/APR MATTERS SCHEDULED AFTER
MAY 18, 2020:**

**For further information, contact Presiding DR Judge Field
Donna.macleod@judicial.state.co.us**

Although the prior administrative orders anticipated allowing some in-person proceedings after May 15, 2020, the District's May 11, 2020 Second Amended Administrative Order 2020-2 regarding COVID-19 restrictions, provides that judicial officers are to conduct proceedings via remote technology whenever reasonably feasible. That directive necessarily applies to the majority of DR/APR proceedings. In any in-person hearings, the "Safer at Home" guidelines (for instance, the mandatory wearing of masks, limits on number of people in the courtroom, six feet distance between people) must continue to be followed, along with all other safety and social distancing requirements in effect in the community and at the Justice Center.

For any DR/APR hearings scheduled after May 15, 2020, unless you have an order directing that the hearing will occur in person in court, you may presume that the hearing will occur by WebEx video or phone. The WebEx video/phone information for each courtroom is available on the 8th Judicial District's website.

Any in-person hearing will have required restrictions on distancing, limits of individuals in the courtroom, and a requirement that masks be worn, along with any other orders the presiding judicial officer believes to be consistent with the May 11, 2020 Second Amended Administrative Order 2020-2.

If you have questions about whether a particular hearing will occur in person or by video/phone, contact the assigned division's clerk by email. Video or phone proceedings will occur by WebEx.

ERPT and emergency parental abduction prevention orders will be considered under the guidelines outlined in the Chief Justice Directive of March 16, 2020 and local Administrative Orders 2020-2 issued March 19, 2020 and May 11, 2020. If a hearing is needed, you will be directed to either appear in person or by phone or video.

Initial status conferences with the Family Court Facilitator will continue to proceed as scheduled but will occur by phone or video.

You should presume that a permanent orders hearing will occur by video unless there is a court order directing parties to appear in person for a hearing, and be prepared to present witnesses by video or phone. If you are not sure on how your case will proceed, contact the division clerk for the assigned division or file a motion for clarification to determine whether your case will proceed by video/phone or in person.

DR/APR pleadings may continue to be filed but there may be delays in such pleadings being addressed or scheduled. Matters that are stipulated or which may be ruled on by pleadings only can be filed and will be considered by the assigned division as time is available.

Non-contested domestic permanent orders may be ruled on with the filing of a non-appearance affidavit or through a phone or video conference in the discretion of the assigned judicial officer.

Status conferences and some temporary orders matters may occur by phone or video in the discretion of the assigned judicial officer.

Parties are reminded that child exchanges are to occur under the “Safe at Home” and “Safer at Home” Colorado and Larimer County guidelines, and that the fact of the coronavirus pandemic alone is not a basis for disregarding a court-ordered exchange. Any modifications to parenting time or visitation exchanges must be by court order or specific (preferably written) agreement of the parties.

These procedures will be updated as needed to ensure the health and safety of all participants.