

Wilmes, Bethany

From: Minnesota Office of Administrative Hearings <MNOAH@public.govdelivery.com>
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COVID-19 update

Continuation of Priority OAH Operations

Yesterday, Governor Walz signed Executive Order 20-20 and announced that Minnesota will join Wisconsin, Illinois, several other states around the nation, and many countries around the world in a stay at home order from **Friday, March 27 at 11:59 p.m. until Friday, April 10.**

OAH is committed to the continuation of our critical court services while also providing a safe environment for both the people we serve and our employees.

Following guidance from Governor Walz and the Minnesota Department of Health, we are taking aggressive steps to prevent the spread of COVID-19, including **requiring our staff to work remotely** whenever possible, utilizing social distancing, and implementing certain procedural changes described below.

Continuances for in-person hearings

Decisions on continuances will be made on a case-by-case basis, recognizing that in some situations hearings can effectively occur by telephone and some priority situations may require an in-person hearing for the protection of personal financial resources or other priority legal services described in Executive Order 20-20.

Room capacity for in-person hearings

For priority matters that are not continued and cannot effectively take place by telephone, we will use a larger hearing room that will accommodate social distancing of 6 feet between participants. Extra seating has been removed from all hearing rooms. Each remaining chair's location is marked by blue tape. This provides a visual cue on seating areas that are 6 feet away from one another.

Signs are posted outside each room with room capacity identified. Conference rooms are also available for an attorney and their client to confer in private while maintaining a distance of 6 feet.

Other courts

Judicial Branch

If you have a matter before a court in the Minnesota Judicial Branch, visit [the Judicial Branch](#) website for information. The orders of the judicial branch **do not** apply to OAH.

What we need from you

Watch for more updates

The COVID-19 outbreak is an evolving situation, and our response will continue to evolve with it. We will use **this GovDelivery system** to notify court users of any other changes caused by COVID-19. If you need to register, visit [OAH's website](#) and use the popup window to sign up.

Ask questions

If you have any questions, please **reply** to this email.

Minnesota Office of Administrative Hearings

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