

SUPREME COURT OF VIRGINIA

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TERESA M. CHAFIN
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DONALD W. LEMONS
LEROY F. MILLETTE, JR.
WILLIAM C. MIMS



SUPREME COURT BUILDING
100 NORTH NINTH STREET
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(804) 786-6455

CLERK
MURIEL-THERESA PITNEY

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KARL R. HADE

CHIEF STAFF ATTORNEY
K. LORRAINE LORD

REPORTER OF DECISIONS
KENT SINCLAIR

STATE LAW LIBRARIAN
GAIL WARREN

Press Release: December 20, 2022

SUPREME COURT OF VIRGINIA BUILDING PROTOCOLS EFFECTIVE IMMEDIATELY

Effective immediately, all persons entering the Supreme Court of Virginia building must comply with the following protocols.

Entering the Court Building: All persons entering the building are encouraged to conduct a temperature self-screening at the building entrance. Anyone with a temperature of 100.4 degrees or higher will be denied entry into the building.

By entering the building, all persons certify that:

- They do not have symptoms of COVID-19: temperature of 100.4 degrees or more, chills, cough, difficulty breathing, unusual fatigue, muscle or body aches, headache, new loss of taste or smell, sore throat, congestion, nausea, vomiting, or diarrhea.
- They are not subject to isolation under CDC (Centers for Disease Control and Prevention) guidelines following a diagnosis of COVID-19 or probable COVID-19.

Notification of Potential Exposure: Any attorney or visitor who tests positive for COVID-19 within 5 days after being present in the Court Building must promptly notify the Clerk (804) 786-2251.

Public Access to Oral Argument: Courtroom attendance is not restricted based on physical distancing and advanced permission is not required to attend oral argument. Additionally, to prevent courtroom overcrowding and for the convenience of interested members of the press and the public, access to oral arguments is provided through a live audio stream available at <https://www.vacourts.gov/courts/scv/home.html>. The link also is available through the Court's webpage at www.vacourts.gov.

SESSION WEEK

Requests for Oral Argument by Videoconference: Although the Court's expectation is that cases will be argued in person, rather than by videoconference, the Court recognizes that some videoconference arguments may be necessary. Attorneys seeking permission to appear virtually must, within 5 days of receiving the argument schedule, advise the Clerk's Office of any such request, stating therein whether opposing counsel will appear in person or by video.

Intervening Events that Prevent In-Person Appearance for Oral Argument: If intervening events occur that would prevent arguing counsel from appearing in person on the day of argument, counsel should obtain agreement of opposing counsel and notify the Clerk (804) 786-2251 concerning any request to the Court regarding their scheduled appearance.

WRIT PANELS

Until further notice, Writ Panels will be held in the Main Courtroom. Arguments will be heard beginning at 9 a.m. (Morning Docket) and 1 p.m. (Afternoon Docket).

Requests for Oral Argument by Teleconference: These requests should be submitted to the Office of the Chief Staff Attorney.

Intervening Events that Prevent In-Person Appearance for Oral Argument: If intervening events occur that would prevent arguing counsel from appearing in person, counsel should notify the Office of the Chief Staff Attorney (804) 786-2259.

Media Contact: Alisa W. Padden, Director of Legislative and Public Relations, Office of the Executive Secretary, Supreme Court of Virginia, (804) 786-6455.