

ADMINISTRATIVE ORDER 2022-10-05

IN THE SUPREME COURT OF CALIFORNIA

EN BANC

FOURTH STANDING ORDER CONCERNING ORAL ARGUMENT

In November 2022 the Supreme Court will resume in-person oral argument in its San Francisco courtroom. Counsel will have the option to appear in person, or remotely via video. Commencing at that oral argument, and at future oral arguments until further order of the court, the following protocols will apply:

1. The courtroom will be open to the public and media on a first come, first served basis. In order to achieve appropriate social distancing, seating will be limited to no more than 35 persons in the audience area.

2. No person shall enter the courtroom if that person (a) has tested positive for COVID-19 within the previous five days; (b) is ill and currently awaiting the results of a COVID-19 test; (c) has had a fever within the prior 24 hours; or (d) has had symptoms consistent with COVID-19 that have persisted over the previous five days.

3. Regardless of vaccination status, all counsel and all members of the public who enter the courtroom must wear well-fitted face coverings, and the use of N-95, KN-95, or KF-94 masks is strongly encouraged. Counsel may, and are encouraged to, remove their masks when presenting argument.

4. All counsel who will appear must file a form within seven calendar days after the case is set for argument ([click here for appearance form](#)). Counsel who elect to appear remotely via video must so indicate on the form, and simultaneously notify opposing counsel. Counsel who do not indicate a preference on the form will be expected to appear in person. All counsel who will appear remotely will be contacted by the court's clerk's office and technical staff for instruction and to test connections in advance of argument. Counsel may appear in person even if other counsel in a case elect to appear remotely.

5. Any counsel who initially planned to appear in person for oral argument but who becomes unable to do so for extraordinary cause related to medical reasons (including a positive COVID-19 test in advance of oral argument) must notify opposing counsel and the clerk of the court immediately regarding, and to arrange for, remote participation via video. The court retains discretion to deny the request, grant it and allow for remote participation, postpone oral argument if necessary, or take other action as may be appropriate.

6. All individuals, including counsel and members of the public, who attend in-person oral argument shall notify the clerk's office at sc.oralargument.forms@jud.ca.gov upon exhibiting symptoms of, or testing positive for, COVID-19 within five days after the in-person session.

7. The public will continue to have access to argument via live streaming on the Judicial Branch website, <https://supreme.courts.ca.gov>. Recordings of oral arguments will continue to be archived for subsequent viewing.

This order supersedes Administrative Orders [2020-03-13 \(Mar. 16, 2020\)](#), [2020-03-27 \(Mar. 27, 2020\)](#), and [2020-08-19 \(Aug. 19, 2020\)](#).

CANTIL-SAKAUYE

Chief Justice

CORRIGAN

Associate Justice

LIU

Associate Justice

KRUGER

Associate Justice

GROBAN

Associate Justice

JENKINS

Associate Justice

GUERRERO

Associate Justice