



Standing Order Regarding Remote Magistrate Hearings

Rule 43.1 of the Vermont Rules of Civil Procedure applies to remote and hybrid hearings in certain family proceedings, including hearings before the magistrate, pursuant to Rule 17 of the Vermont Rules for Family Proceedings. Both rules were amended on October 2, 2023.

The court finds good cause to order that hearings before the undersigned magistrate continue to be held remotely with options for remote or in person participation by any party, attorney, witness, or other person with no motion being required.

The court finds that it has adequate technological capabilities, and adequate air flow; that the court has satisfactory provisions for confidential communication between lawyers and their clients or witnesses; that the oath can be administered to the witness in a manner consistent with Vermont law; that the procedure as set out and followed allows for full and effective examination and cross examination of witnesses by all parties and the court, including access to documentary evidence; and that the use of audio or video does not diminish or detract from the dignity, solemnity and formality of the proceeding or undermine its integrity, fairness or effectiveness. Moreover, the use of remote hearings increases the level of participation by parties and improves access to justice for individuals who lack transportation, have difficulty securing time away from work, or who find in person participation difficult for any other reason.

The magistrate may preside from a remote location. A party may move that some or all parties, counsel, witnesses, or other persons be required to participate in a particular manner. Any such motion must be served on the other parties and filed reasonably in advance of the proceeding.

In the event the Court cannot accommodate an in person hearing, the hearing will be held remotely. Please check your hearing notice. If you have any questions pertaining to in person or remote attendance, please contact the Clerk's Office for the specific docket in question.

Electronically signed October 6, 2023 pursuant to V.R.E.F. 9(d).

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Joseph M. Lorman".

Joseph M. Lorman
Superior Court Magistrate