## ORDER: IN PERSON AND REMOTE PARTICIPATION IN CIVIL HEARINGS IN LAMOILLE, ORLEANS, CALEDONIA AND ESSEX COUNTIES

As many people are aware, several emergency provisions promulgated by Administrative Order (AO) 49 have now been rescinded by amendment dated August 9, 2022 and effective September 6, 2022. Remote hearings are governed by AO 38 and V.R.C.P. 43.1.

Effective Monday, October 31, 2022, the Lamoille, Orleans, Caledonia and Essex County Courts in civil unit matters (including all matter filed originally in the civil unit, administrative appeals, prisoner cases, and probate appeals) attorneys, witnesses and parties may continue to appear remotely through the Court's Webex platform in evidentiary and non-evidentiary hearings. If any party objects to another party or witness appearing remotely, they may object by filing a motion no less than 14 days in advance of the hearing. The Court on its own may direct the parties to appear in person depending on the anticipated length and relative complexity of the hearing.

The Court will issue any order regarding masking that the circumstances, or particular circulation capacities of a courtroom may require. The current expectation is that masking is optional and at the discretion of an individual. Any party attending in person may wear a mask as they believe to be appropriate and/or for their personal wellbeing.

Any person appearing remotely will do so with audio and video on.

So ordered.

Electronically signed on 10/19/2022 8:36 AM pursuant to V.R.E.F. 9(d)

Daniel Richardson

Superior Court Judge