



District of Columbia Court of Appeals Information on In-Person Oral Arguments

Effective September 2021, the court is holding oral arguments **in person**. Oral arguments are streamed publicly at the [DC Court of Appeals YouTube channel](#).

Details on health and safety procedures, including face coverings, the Courts' health screening questionnaire, and temperature checks are available at <https://www.dccourts.gov/stepstokeepyousafe>. To promote social distancing, until further notice, oral arguments are held in the Ceremonial Courtroom on the lower level of the courthouse.

- Courtroom capacity is limited to 30, plus the judges, courtroom clerk, and attorneys or *pro se* parties. A broadcast of the YouTube stream will be available in a small overflow room.
- Attendees must follow court face covering and social distancing requirements, except that--
 - Judges may remove their masks during the proceedings, and arguing attorneys and *pro se* parties may remove their masks while at the podium presenting their arguments.
 - Two attorneys may share the attorney table if they choose to do so.
- A Court Security Officer (CSO) at the entrance of the courtroom monitors capacity, social distancing, and face coverings.
- Housekeeping personnel clean the podium and microphone between speakers and clean the attorney tables between cases. Disinfecting wipes and hand sanitizer are available.

The Court will continue to conduct videoconference oral arguments in limited circumstances.

- Summary Calendar cases scheduled for oral argument will be conducted by videoconference.
- In case of inclement weather, the court may conduct oral argument remotely.
- In light of ongoing public health and safety concerns related to COVID-19, the court may transition to remote oral argument.
- If appearing on-site would pose a hardship, you may request a videoconference oral argument.

- Hardships may include physical disability, living outside of the DC metropolitan area, or other difficulties.
- All participants must consent to the request (other parties, any amicus).
- The Court will not hear matters in a hybrid manner where, for example, one participant is remote and the other is on-site.
- To request a videoconference oral argument, file a motion showing good cause why the court should hear your case virtually and confirming that you have received agreement from all participants to a videoconference oral argument.
- If granted, your video oral argument will begin 30 minutes after the Court finishes that day's in-person arguments; we recommend you monitor the in-person cases on [YouTube](#) so you will be ready when the court calls your case.

If you have an upcoming oral argument, please confirm **your contact information**, cell phone and email address, in the eFiling system. If you do not use the eFiling system, email efilehelp@dcappeals.gov or call the Public Office at (202) 879-2700. The court will contact you in case of a videoconference oral argument.